

Everyone's welcome to join in Sheffield Children's Festival

This year, Sheffield Children's Festival will be more inclusive than ever, offering more events that are open for everyone to take part in.

Children of all ages, from 0-18, are encouraged to get involved, and the range of events is being programmed to reflect this. There are lots of schools, community groups and individuals getting involved, creating a vast and varied programme of exciting activities from 13 June to 4 July.

Cllr Sylvia Dunkley, Cabinet member for Culture, Leisure and Streetscene, said: "The new look Sheffield Children's Festival aims to get young people from across the city involved, even if they don't go to a school that is taking part in the project. Young people will be able to feel involved in the festival, and show off their talents to the city.

"The brochure will be available in May, and we encourage families from Sheffield and beyond to come along and join in the fun."

Activities already confirmed include:

Performance of High Storrs School's 'The Wizz', a version of the Wizard of Oz, in the City Hall's Oval Hall.

A den making workshop in the Winter Garden.

The UK premiere of a Spanish Flamenco Dance Troupe.

A brand new format Lord Mayor's Day as a festival finale.

A sculpture trail for young children in the city centre.

'Show of Hands', an exhibition of children's creations.

'Avatars', an exhibition of digital art by Sheffield Children.

Last year, the annual event attracted over 20,500 visitors to more than 40 events and exhibitions. The festival offers all Sheffield's young people the opportunity to develop their creativity in learning and to take part in cultural activities.

VINCI Education is sponsoring Sheffield Children's Festival. They are currently leading on the delivery of the Sheffield Building Schools for the Future (BSF) programme in partnership with Sheffield City Council.

Andrew Percival, VINCI Education Managing Director, said: "We're delighted to support Sheffield Children's Festival for another year, and are pleased that the festival is becoming accessible by all children in the city. We hope that the festival

will inspire self esteem, enterprise and innovation in Sheffield's young people."

If you are interested in getting involved in Sheffield Children's Festival, please contact Richard Johnson, Children's Festival Manager, on 0114 2814050.