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Diwali will be celebrated with dance and music in the city this weekend.

This is a free event that all are welcome to attend. Activities will be taking place on Cathedral Square on Saturday 14 October to mark Diwali, the festival of light, between 11am and 4.30pm.

Events also include energetic and colourful performances from the Gujarati, Tamal, Telugu, Kannada, Nepali and Bengali communities. These include a wide range of classical dance and song throughout the morning and evening.

Diwali is the festival of lights which has evolved into a global celebration. It is celebrated in the autumn during a dark new moon night. Light is a metaphor for God, truth and knowledge.

Rajni Reddy, secretary of the Peterborough Diwali Festival Committee, said: "We are promoting Diwali at Cathedral Square not only as a Hindu Festival, but a cultural event for the whole city.

"We hope everyone will come to interact with each other and enjoy the music, dance, food and shopping."

Councillor Steve Allen, cabinet advisor to the leader for Peterborough City Council, said: "This will be a welcoming and uplifting event that everyone in Peterborough is invited to attend. As the evenings continue to draw in, the festival of Diwali offers a powerful reminder of the role of light in combating all forms of darkness.

"The Diwali festival is one of a number of community and faith festivals taking place in the city each year which we support. Each is a great opportunity for our many communities to come together in celebration and learn about each other's cultures and traditions."