**PRESS RELEASE**

**Embargoed**: 00:01, 26 September 2017

**A-HA AND MICA PARIS JOIN ‘BBC CHILDREN IN NEED ROCKS THE 80S’ LINE-UP!**

* **a-ha** and **Mica Paris** will join icons **Bananarama, Boy George, Erasure, Europe, Imagination Featuring Leee John, Jason Donovan, Katrina from Katrina & The Waves, Louisa Johnson, Nick Heyward, OMD and UB40 Featuring Ali, Astro and Mickey** as they take to the stage for a special show in aid of BBC Children in Need on **Thursday 19 October** at **The SSE Arena, Wembley**
* Presenters **Fearne Cotton** and **Sara Cox** will host the night with **Roman Kemp** reporting from behind-the-scenes
* Tickets are still available at [www.bbc.co.uk/Pudsey](http://www.bbc.co.uk/Pudsey)

With less than a month to go **a-ha** and **Mica Paris** have been announced as new additions to the star-studded **BBC Children in Need Rocks the 80s** concert line-up taking place in The SSE Arena, Wembley. The special fundraising show will transport concertgoers back to the 80s to celebrate the decade in which BBC Children in Need’s first major appeal took place and tickets are still available.

The 80s spectacular, from BBC Studios, will see **a-ha** perform their anthem Take On Me whilst **Mica Paris** will inject some serious soul into the night with a medley of songs from the era performed alongside a gospel choir. The new acts will join **Bananarama, Boy George, Erasure, Europe, Imagination Featuring Leee John, Jason Donovan, Katrina from Katrina & The Waves, Louisa Johnson, Nick Heyward, OMD and UB40 Featuring Ali, Astro and Mickey** on stage. **Fearne Cotton** and **Sara Cox** will host the evening whilst **Roman Kemp** willcapture all the excitement backstage, interviewing many of the night's performers.

With tickets going fast, 80s lovers are encouraged to pick up their tickets before the event sells out. The night will especially appeal to groups of friends, family or colleagues looking to enjoy the soundtrack of the era live. Concertgoers are being urged to get into the spirit of the 1980s by donning retro outfits, from leg warmers and scrunchies to shoulder pads and parachute pants whilst they dance the night away.

Since its first major appeal in 1980, BBC Children in Need has raised over **£909 million** for disadvantaged children and young people across the UK.  A number of films sharing the stories of children and young people supported through the charity’s grants will feature in the broadcast and viewers and listeners to the show will be invited to donate to raise even more money for those in need. All profits from the concert will go to BBC Children in Need.

Tickets are on sale now at [**www.bbc.co.uk/Pudsey**](http://www.bbc.co.uk/Pudsey) and are priced from £25 each.

The concert will be broadcast on BBC One in the run up to the annual BBC Children in Need Appeal (date and time yet to be announced).

**BBC Children in Need Rocks** is a BBC Studios production, executive produced by Guy Freeman, Editor of Special Events and Formats, and produced by Cerrie Frost.

**ENDS**

**For more interview enquiries, more information or images, please contact:** Coco Stephens, BBC Children in Need: 07590 183559 / [coco.stephens@bbc.co.uk](mailto:coco.stephens@bbc.co.uk)

**Notes to Editors**

BBC Children in Need’s vision is that every child in the UK has a safe, happy and secure childhood and the chance to reach their potential. The charity will realise this vision by supporting, promoting and publicising work that addresses the challenges that children and young people face and work that builds their skills and resilience.

BBC Children in Need is currently supporting over 2,600 projects in communities across the UK that are helping children and young people facing a range of disadvantages such as living in poverty, being disabled or ill, or experiencing distress, neglect or trauma.

More information about BBC Children in Need can be found at [www.bbc.co.uk/Pudsey](http://www.bbc.co.uk/Pudsey)