



**Equality, Diversity
and Inclusion Calendar**

2026

January 2026



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
			1 Veganuary	2	3 Mahayana New Year	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25 Burns Night
26	27 Holocaust Memorial Day	28	29	30	31	

Thursday 1 January | Veganuary is an annual challenge run by a UK non-profit organisation that promotes the vegan lifestyle, by encouraging people to follow a vegan diet for the month of January.

Saturday 3 January | Mahayana New Year, also known as 'Vesak,' is a traditional Buddhist holiday that commemorates the birth, enlightenment, and passing of the Buddha.

Sunday 25 January | Burns Night is celebrated every year in honour of Scotland's national poet, Robert Burns, the Ayrshire poet and lyricist.

Tuesday 27 January | Holocaust Memorial Day remembers the six million Jews murdered by the Nazis and commemorates the millions more people murdered through the Nazis' persecution of other groups during World War Two.

February 2026

Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday Sunday

						1 LGBT+ History Month
2	3	4 World Cancer Awareness Day	5	6 Time to Talk Day	7	8
9	10	11	12 Darwin Day	13	14 Valentine's Day	15 Maha Shivratri
16	17 Lunar New Year Ramadan begins	18 Lent begins	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	



Ramadan

Saturday 1 February | LGBT+ History Month celebrates LGBT+ people in all their diversity, raises awareness and combats prejudice with education.

Wednesday 4 February | World Cancer Awareness Day raises awareness about cancer, encourages its prevention, and mobilises action to address the global cancer epidemic.

Friday 6 February | Time to Talk Day is the UK's biggest annual mental health conversation. It's a day for friends, families, communities, and workplaces to come together to talk, listen, and change lives.

Thursday 12 February | Darwin Day is a celebration to commemorate the birthday of Charles Darwin. The day is used to highlight Darwin's contributions to science and to promote science in general.

Saturday 14 February | Valentine's Day is a special time in the year when people show their affection for another person or people by sending cards, flowers or chocolates with messages of love.

Sunday 15 February | Maha Shivratri is a Hindu festival celebrated annually in honour of the deity Shiva.

Tuesday 17 February | Lunar New Year or Chinese New Year is the beginning of a new year based on lunar calendars or lunisolar calendars.

Tuesday 17 February | Ramadan begins – Ramadan is the ninth month of the Islamic calendar, observed by Muslims worldwide as a month of fasting, prayer, reflection, and community.

Wednesday 18 February | Start of Lent, which is the period of six weeks (40 days not including Sundays) leading up to the Christian festival of Easter.

March 2026

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
						1
2	3	4 Holi	5	6	7	8 <u>International Women's Day</u>
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16 <u>Neurodiversity Celebration Week</u>	17	18 Eid al-Fitr/End of Ramadan	19	20	21 The International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31 Transgender Day of Visibility					



Holi

Wednesday 4 March | Holi is a Hindu festival that celebrates spring, love, and new life.

Sunday 8 March | International Women's Day is a global day celebrating the social, economic, cultural, and political achievements of women

Monday 16 March | Neurodiversity Celebration Week is a worldwide initiative that challenges stereotypes and misconceptions about neurodevelopmental disorders and learning disabilities.

Wednesday 18 March | Eid al-Fitr/End of Ramadan is a joyous celebration lasting three days, marking the end of Ramadan and involving communal prayer, parties, special foods, and visiting friends and family.

Saturday 21 March | The International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination was declared by the United Nations in 1966 to commemorate the Sharpeville Massacre in South Africa, where a group of protesters were killed while peacefully protesting Apartheid laws.

Tuesday 31 March | Transgender Day of Visibility is dedicated to celebrating transgender people, raising awareness of the discrimination they face worldwide and celebrating their contributions to society.

April 2026



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
		1 Passover <u>Stress Awareness Month</u> Autism Awareness Month	2	3 Good Friday/ Easter Friday	4	5 Easter Sunday
6	7 World Health Day	8	9	10	11	12
13	14 Vaisakhi	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22 <u>Stephen Lawrence Day</u>	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

Wednesday 1 April | Passover, also called Pesach, is a Jewish holiday and one of the Three Pilgrimage Festivals.

Wednesday 1 April | Stress Awareness and Autism Awareness Month is an annual event dedicated to raising public awareness about stress, its causes, management, and impact on health.

Friday 3 April | Good Friday/Easter Friday is a Christian holy day observing the crucifixion of Jesus and his death at Calvary.

Sunday 5 April | Easter Sunday is a Christian festival and cultural holiday commemorating the resurrection of Jesus from the dead.

Tuesday 7 April | World Health Day is celebrated to raise awareness of global health issues.

Tuesday 14 April | Vaisakhi, also called Baisakhi, is the festival which celebrates the founding of the Sikh community, the Khalsa.

Wednesday 22 April | Stephen Lawrence Day commemorates the life of Stephen Lawrence, a Black British teenager who was murdered in a racist attack in 1993. It honours his memory and promotes racial equality.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
				1	2	3
4 <u>Deaf Awareness Week</u>	5	6	7	8	9	10 <u>National Children's Day</u>
11 <u>Mental Health Awareness Week</u>	12	13	14	15	16	17 IDAHOBIT
18 Learning at Work Week	19	20	21	22	23	24 Pentecost/Whitsun
25	26	27	28	29	30	31



Deaf Awareness Week

Monday 4 May | Deaf Awareness Week increases public awareness about the issues affecting deaf people and Deaf culture as a whole.

Sunday 10 May | National Children's Day is about the importance of a healthy childhood, and protecting the rights, freedoms and flourishing of children and young people.

Monday 11 May | Mental Health Awareness Week serves as a crucial reminder to prioritise mental well-being and support those navigating mental health challenges.

Sunday 17 May | International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia, Intersexphobia and Transphobia (IDAHOBIT) is an annual celebration to commemorate the day in 1990 when the World Health Organisation removed homosexuality from its list of mental disorders. Its particular focus is on raising awareness of the discrimination and violence faced by LGBTQIA+ people.

Monday 18 May | Learning at Work Week draws attention to the importance and benefit of learning and development in the workplace.

Sunday 24 May | Pentecost/Whitsun is a Christian holiday which takes place on the 49th day after Easter Day.

June 2026



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
1 Pride Month Global Parents' Day	2	3	4	5	6	7
8 Carers Week Men's Health Awareness Week	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16 Al Hijri/Islamic New Year	17	18 Martyrdom Day of Guru Arjan Dev Ji	19	20	21 World Humanist Day
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

Monday 1 June | LGBTQIA+ Pride Month, is a month dedicated to the celebration of LGBTQIA+ pride, commemorating the contributions of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer people, culture and community.

Monday 1 June | Global Parents' Day was proclaimed by the United Nations to appreciate all parents across the world for their selfless commitment to children and their lifelong sacrifice towards nurturing this relationship.

Monday 8 June | Carers Week is an annual campaign to raise awareness of caring, highlight the challenges unpaid carers face and recognise the contribution they make to families and communities.

Monday 8 June | Men's Health Awareness Week highlights the importance of addressing physical and mental health issues among men.

Tuesday 16 June | Al Hijri marks the celebration of the Islamic New Year's Day.

Thursday 18 June | Martyrdom Day of Guru Arjan Dev Ji is the day to commemorate and celebrate the life of religious figure Guru Arjan Dev Ji who sacrificed his life for the Sikh people.

Sunday 21 June | World Humanist Day spreads awareness of Humanism as a philosophical life stance and means to effect change in the world.

July 2026



South Asian Heritage Month

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
		1 <u>Talk to us Samaritans Awareness Day</u>	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18 <u>South Asian Heritage Month</u>	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29 <u>Dharma Day/ Asalha Puja</u>	30	31		

Wednesday 1 July | Talk to Us Samaritans Awareness Day On this date and throughout July, the Samaritans run the campaign Talk to Us, to remind people that they are here for anyone who needs someone to listen.

Saturday 18 July | South Asian Heritage Month is an annual awareness month that seeks to commemorate, mark, and celebrate South Asian cultures, histories, and communities.

Wednesday 29 July | Dharma Day is a Buddhist holiday, celebrated annually on the full moon day of the eighth lunar month. This day marks the Buddha's first sermon.

August 2026

Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday Sunday

					1 Eisteddfod	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12 International Youth Day	13 The Obon Festival	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						



International Youth Day

Saturday 1 August | Eisteddfod – in Welsh culture, an Eisteddfod is an institution and festival with several ranked competitions, including in poetry and music.

Wednesday 12 August | International Youth Day offers a chance to raise awareness of the need to ensure the engagement and participation of youth.

Thursday 13 August | The Obon Festival is an annual Japanese holiday that commemorates and remembers ancestors.

September 2026

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
	1	2	3	4 Krishna Janmashtami	5	6
7	8	9	10 <u>World Suicide Prevention Day</u>	11 Rosh Hashanah	12	13
14	15 National Inclusion Week	16	17	18	19	20 Yom Kippur
21 National Eye Health Awareness Week	22	23 Bi Visibility Day	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				



Rosh Hashanah

Friday 4 September | Krishna Janmashtami is a Hindu festival celebrating the birth of the god Krishna, an avatar of the god Vishnu, on the eighth day of the dark fortnight of the month of Bhadrapada.

Thursday 10 September | World Suicide Prevention Day is a day dedicated to providing worldwide commitment and action to prevent suicide.

Friday 11 September | Rosh Hashanah is the New Year in Judaism.

Tuesday 15 September | National Inclusion Week is dedicated to promoting and celebrating inclusion in the workplace and across communities.

Sunday 20 September | Yom Kippur means Day of Atonement. It is a sacred day in the Jewish calendar focused on putting things right with God through prayer and sacrifice.

Monday 21 September | National Eye Health Awareness Week raises awareness about the importance of good eye care and encourages people to take action to protect their vision.

Wednesday 23 September | Bi Visibility Day is dedicated to raising bisexual awareness and challenging bisexual erasure.

November 2026

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
						1
2	3	4	5 Guy Fawkes Night	6	7	8
9 Interfaith Week	10	11 Remembrance Day	12	13 Transgender Awareness Week	14 Disability History Month	15
16	17 International Students' Day	18 Pride in STEM Day	19 International Men's Day	20	21	22
23	24	25 International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women	26	27	28	29
30						



Disability History Month

Saturday 9 November | Interfaith Week strengthens interfaith relations, increases awareness of the diversity and contribution of faith communities and fosters understanding.

Thursday 5 November | Guy Fawkes Night marks the anniversary of the prevention of a plot to blow up the Houses of Parliament in 1605.

Wednesday 11 November | Remembrance Day is a memorial day that marks the end of the First World War to honour armed forces members who have died in the line of duty.

Friday 13 November | Transgender Awareness Week – during this week people and organisations work to increase understanding about transgender people and the issues they face. As part of this, Transgender Day of Remembrance takes place on Thursday 20 November.

Saturday 14 November | Disability History Month promotes understanding of disability issues and the history of disabled people's struggle for equality and human rights.

Tuesday 17 November | International Students' Day

Wednesday 18 November | Pride in STEM Day celebrates and highlights the work of and barriers facing LGBTQIA+ people in science, technology, engineering, and maths.

Thursday 19 November | International Men's Day is a global awareness day for many issues that men face, including abuse, homelessness, suicide and violence.

Wednesday 25 November | International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women highlights the escalation of violence against women and calls for revitalised commitments, accountability and action.

December 2026

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
	1 World AIDS Day	2	3 International Day of Persons with Disabilities	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12 Hannukah	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20 Asarah B'Tevet
21	22	23	24	25 Christmas Day	26	27
28	29	30	31			



Christmas Day

Tuesday 1 December | World AIDS Day brings together people from around the world to raise awareness about HIV/AIDS and demonstrate international solidarity in the face of the pandemic.

Thursday 3 December | International Day of Persons with Disabilities is a day to celebrate the achievements of Disabled people around the world as well as to promote the rights of people with disabilities.

Saturday 12 December | Hannukah is a Jewish holiday that celebrates the miracle of the oil and the rededication of the Temple. It lasts for eight days and nights and involves lighting candles, eating fried foods, playing games, and giving gifts.

Sunday 20 December | Asarah B'Tevet is a fast day in Judaism. It is observed on the 10th of Tevet and commemorates the siege of Jerusalem by Nebuchadnezzar II of Babylonia.

Friday 25 December | Christmas Day is a holy day for Christians, that marks the birth of Jesus, who Christians believe to be the Son of God.