



2021

Diversity Calendar



Equality and Diversity UK

January 2021

**Jackie Robinson: the first
African American to play in
Major League Baseball**



2021

Diversity Calendar

January 2021

Special dates this month

World Braille Day

4 January 2021

World Religion Day

17 January 2021

Holocaust Memorial Day

27 January 2021

January						
Mon	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Special Days in January

1	New Year's Day (BANK HOLIDAY) Gantan-sai (Shinto) Shinto New Year
5	Birthday of Guru Gobind Singh (Sikh)
6	Epiphany (Christian)
7	Feast of the Nativity (Orthodox Christian)
14	Maghi – Lohri (Sikh)
27	Holocaust Memorial Day
28	Mahayana New Year (Buddhist)
28	Tu B'Shevat (Jewish) The Jewish New Year for trees
31	Birthday of Guru Har Rai – Sikh

February 2021



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Bernie Grant: was one of
the first three black MPs
elected to the Commons

February 2021

Special dates this month

LGBT History Month

February 2021

**Sexual Abuse and Sexual
Violence Awareness Week**

1 - 7 February 2021

World Cancer Day

4 February 2021

National Apprenticeship Week

8 - 14 February 2021

Chinese New Year

12 February 2021

February						
Mon	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

Special Days in February

12	Chinese New Year (Confucian, Daoist, Buddhist)
15	Nirvana Day (Jain, Buddhist) Buddhists celebrate the death of the Buddha, because they believe that having attained Enlightenment, he achieved freedom from physical existence and its sufferings.
17	Ash Wednesday (Christian) The first day of Lent.
26	Purim (Jewish) Commemorates the time when Jewish people living in Persia were saved by Esther.

DEMOCRACY



Bayard Rustin: American leader in social movements for civil rights, socialism, nonviolence, and gay rights

March 2021



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March 2021

Special dates this month

**Eating Disorders
Awareness Week**
1 - 7 March 2021

International Women's Day
8 March 2021

**International Day for the
Elimination of Racial
Discrimination**
21 March 2021

**World Down's Syndrome
Day**
21 March 2021

March						
Mon	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
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29	30	31				

Special Days in March

1	Nineteen Day Fast (start) (Bahai) During this period Baha'is go without food or drink from sunrise to sunset.
10	Purim (Jewish) Commemorates the time when Jewish people living in Persia were saved by Esther.
11	Maha Shivaratri (Hindu) day and night fast in honour of Lord Shiva
14	Bali - Hindu New Year Nanakshahi - Sikh New Year
15	Clean Monday (Eastern Orthodox) Start of Great Lent
20	Naw-Rúz (New Year) - (Baha'i) Norooz (New Year) - (Zoroastrian)
28	Passover (1st day) (Jewish) The start of the festival of Passover Magha Puja (Buddhist) Khordad Sal (Zoroastrian) The birthday of Zoroaster
28	Palm Sunday - The beginning of Holy Week - the week leading up to Easter
29	Lailat al Bara'a (Islam) The Night of Forgiveness
29	Holi (Hindu) Spring Festival Hola Mohalla (Sikh)



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April 2021



Walter Tull: English
professional footballer and
British Army officer

April 2021

Special dates this month

Autism Awareness Day
2 April 2021

Stephen Lawrence Day
22 April 2021

**World Day for Health and
Safety at Work**
28 April 2021

April						
Mon	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
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26	27	28	29	30		

Special Days in April

2	Good Friday (Christian) Good Friday commemorates the execution of Jesus by crucifixion. (BANK HOLIDAY)
4	Easter Sunday (Christian) Christians celebrate the Resurrection of Christ
5	Easter Monday (BANK HOLIDAY)
6	Mahavir Jayanti (Jain): The most important religious holiday for Jains
12	Ramadan (start) (Muslim) Ramadan is the Muslim month of fasting.
14	Vaisakhi (Sikh): Day to celebrate when Sikhism was born as a collective faith.
18	Birthday of Guru Tegh Bahadur – Sikh Birthday of Guru Angad Dev – Sikh
20	Ridvan - first day (Bahai) The start of a 12 day festival
21	Rama Navami (Hindu) Hindus celebrate the birth of Lord Rama
29	Ridvan - Ninth Day (Bahai)



May 2021



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Phillis Wheatley: the first
African-American author of
a published book of poetry.

May 2021

Special dates this month

Deaf Awareness Week

4 - 9 May 2021

**Mental Health Awareness
Week**

18 - 23 May 2021

Vascular Birthmark Day

15 May 2021

**International Day Against
Homophobia, Transphobia
and Biphobia (IDAHOT)**

17 May 2021

**World Day for Cultural
Diversity Dialogue and
Development**

21 May 2021

May						
Mon	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
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31						

Special Days in May

1	Ridvan – Twelfth Day (Bahai)
2	Birthday of Guru Arjan Dev – Sikh
3	Early May BANK HOLIDAY
7	Laylat al Qadr (Muslim) The holiest night in the Islamic calendar. The night the Quran was sent down from the heaven to the Earth
12	Eid-UI-Fitr (Muslim) The end of Ramadan when Muslims celebrate the end of fasting and thank Allah for His help with their month-long act of self-control.
17	Shavuot (Jewish) Shavuot is a 2 day festival that marks the time that the first harvest was taken to the Temple.
23	Declaration of the Bab (Bahai) Bab was the Forerunner of Baha'u'llah, founder of the Baha'i faith. Birthday of Guru Amar Das (Sikh) Pentecost - Whitsun (Christian) Commemorates the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the disciples and the birth of the Christian Church.
26	Vesak (Buddha day) (Buddhist) The most important of the Buddhist festivals - The Buddha's birthday
28	Ascension of Baha'u'llah (Bahai)
30	Trinity Sunday (Christian)
31	Spring BANK HOLIDAY



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Diversity Calendar

Baroness Chakrabarti, CBE:
British politician, barrister,
and human rights activist.

June 2021

June 2021

Special dates this month

**Gypsy, Roma & Travellers
History Month**
June 2021

Carers Week
7 - 13 June 2021

Refugee Week
14 - 20 June 2021

Windrush Day
22 June 2021

Learning Disabilities Week
21 – 27 June 2021

School Diversity Week
21 – 25 June 2021

June						
Mon	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
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28	29	30				

Special Days in June

16	Martyrdom of Guru Arjan Dev (Sikh) Guru Arjan Dev was the fifth Sikh Guru and the first Sikh martyr.
23	Summer Solstice - Litha (Pagan) Longest day of the year
29	St Peter and St Paul's Day (Christian) The martyrdoms of both these saints are observed by the Church today

July 2021



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Diversity Calendar

Haile Selassie I: Emperor of
Ethiopia from 1930 to 1974



July 2021

Special dates this month

Disability Awareness Day

18 July 2021

World Youth Skills Day

15 July 2011

International Friendship Day

30 July 2021

July						
Mon	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
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Special Days in July

6	Birthday of Guru Hargobind (Sikh)
9	Martyrdom of the Bab (Bahai) Anniversary of the Bab's execution in 1850 in Tabriz, Iran.
18	Tisha B'Av (Jewish) A solemn day that commemorates a series of tragedies that have befallen the Jewish people over the years, many of which have coincidentally happened on this day.
20	Eid-UI-Adha (Islam) Festival of Sacrifice marking the day after Arafat, the most important day in the Hajj ritual. This is a four day holiday
23	Birthday of Haile Selassie I (Rastafari) Haile Selassie was the Emperor of Ethiopia. Rastas believe Haile Selassie is God, and that he will return the black community who are living in exile to Africa. Birthday of Guru HarKrishan (Sikh)
24	Asalha Puja (Dharma Day) – Buddhist The anniversary of the start of Buddha's teaching - his first sermon, "The Wheel of Truth", after his enlightenment.

August 2021



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Diversity Calendar

**Lisa Nandy: Shadow
Secretary of State for
Foreign, Commonwealth
and Development Affairs**

August 2021

Special dates this month

International Youth Day
12 August 2021

**International Day for the
Remembrance of the Slave
Trade and its Abolition**
23 August 2021

Women's' Equality Day
26 August 2021

August						
Mon	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
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23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

Special Days in August

9	Al-Hjira - Muharram (Islam) Islamic New Year. Marks the migration of the Prophet Mohammad from Mecca to Medina.
15	Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Christian) A largely Roman Catholic festival celebrating their belief that Mary, the mother of Jesus, was taken body and soul into heaven. Obon - Ullambana (Buddhist, Shinto)
21	Raksha Bandhan (Hindu) celebrates the relationship between brothers and sisters.
18	Ashura (Islam) Marks the martyrdom of the Prophet's grandson, Hussein.
30	Krishna Janmashtami (Jayanti) Hindus celebrate the birth of Krishna
30	Summer BANK HOLIDAY

September 2021

Diane Abbot: The first black woman elected to Parliament, she is the longest-serving black MP in the House of Commons.



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September 2021

Special dates this month

International Literacy Day
8 September 2021

World Suicide Prevention Day
10 September 2021

International Day of Peace
21 September 2021

September						
Mon	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
		1	2	3	4	5
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13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

Special Days in September

1	Celebration of Guru Granth Sahib , the central religious scripture of Sikhism, regarded by Sikhs as the final, sovereign and eternal living Guru following the lineage of the ten human gurus of the religion
4	Paryushan - The most important Jain festival of the year
8	Birthday of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Christian) Roman Catholic and Anglican churches celebrate the birth of Mary, mother of Jesus.
10	Ganesh Charurthi Hindus celebrates the birth of Ganesh, god of wisdom and prosperity.
6	Rosh Hashanah (1st day) (Jewish) Jewish New Year. A two-day festival during which work is not permitted.
15	Yom Kippur (Jewish) Day of Atonement - the most solemn day of the Jewish year.

October 2021

Baroness Lawrence of Clarendon, OBE: British Jamaican campaigner and the mother of Stephen Lawrence, a black British teenager who was murdered in a racist attack in South East London in 1993.

Black History Month



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October 2021

Special dates this month

Black History Month

October 2021

ADHD Awareness Month

October 2021

Dyslexia Awareness Week

4 - 10 October 2021

World Mental Health Day

10 October 2021

National Coming Out Day

11 October 2021

Stammering Awareness Day

22 October 2021

October						
Mon	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Special Days in October

9	Birthday of Guru Ram Das (Sikh) The fourth of the Sikh Gurus.
7	Navaratri (start) (Hindu) Navaratri symbolises the triumph of good over evil and marks the start of autumn
15	Dussehra (Hindu) Celebrates Lord Rama's victory over the evil Ravana.
18	Milad un Nabi (Sunni Muslim) Birthday of the Prophet Muhammad
20	Sukkot (Jewish) commemorates the years Jews spent in the desert on their way to the Promised Land. Birth of the Bab (Bahai) Celebrates the birth of the precursor of the founder of the Baha'i faith.



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Diversity Calendar

Mary Jane Seacole: British-Jamaican nurse, healer and businesswoman who set up the "British Hotel" behind the lines during the Crimean War.

November 2021



November 2021

Special dates this month

National Stress Awareness Day

4 November 2021

Inter-Faith Week

8-14 November 2021

International Day of Tolerance

16 November 2021

Anti-Bullying Week

15-21 November 2021

Transgender Day of Remembrance/Awareness

20 November 2021

November						
Mon	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

Special Days in November

2	All Souls' Day (Christian) All Souls' Day is an opportunity to commemorate the faithful departed. Coronation of Emperor Haile Selassie I (Rastafari) Haile Selassie was the Emperor of Ethiopia.
4	Diwali (Hindu, Sikh, Jainism) Diwali, the festival of lights is the most popular of all the South Asian festivals
7	Birth of Baha'u'llah (Bahai) This day celebrates the birth in 1817 of the founder of the Baha'i faith.
11	Armistice Day (Multifaith) Marks the end of the First World War
19	Birthday of Guru Nanak Dev Ji Sahib (Sikh) Founder of the Sikh religion
24	Martyrdom of Guru Tegh Bahadur (Sikh) Guru Tegh Bahadur was the ninth Sikh Guru
28	Hanukkah (Jewish) Hanukkah is the Festival of Lights and marks the restoration of the temple by the Maccabees in 164 BCE. Advent Sunday (Christian) The beginning of the ecclesiastical year



2021

Diversity Calendar

Madam C.J. Walker: American entrepreneur, philanthropist, and political and social activist and the first female self-made millionaire in America

December 2021



December 2021

Special dates this month

World AIDS Day
1 December 2021

**International Day for the
Abolition of Slavery**
2 December 2021

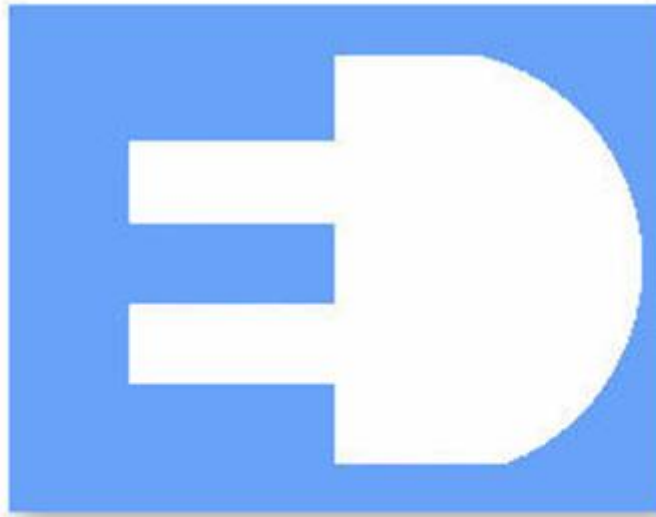
**International Day of Persons
with Disabilities**
3 December 2021

Human Rights Day
10 December 2021

Tuesday						
Mon	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
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13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

Special Days in December

8	Bodhi Day (Buddhist) On Bodhi day some Buddhists celebrate Gautama's attainment of enlightenment under the Bodhi tree at Bodhgaya, India. Feast of the Immaculate Conception (Catholic) Celebrated by Roman Catholics who remember Mary's conception as being without sin, therefore, immaculate.
25	Christmas Day (Christian) - Western Christians celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ.
26	Boxing Day Zarathosht Diso Zoroastrians remember the death of their prophet, Zoroaster.
27	BANK HOLIDAY
28	BANK HOLIDAY



Equality and Diversity UK

www.equalityanddiversity.co.uk

Equality and Diversity UK are a specialist training company focusing on equality and diversity in the private, public and voluntary sectors.

**We provide training courses, seminars, resources and the
Equality and Diversity Network**

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