

Equality and Diversity UK



January 2022

Special dates this month

World Braille Day
4 January 2022

World Religion Day 16 January 2022

International Day of
Education
24 January 2022

Holocaust Memorial Day 27 January 2022

	January					
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Special Days in January

1	New Year's Day Gantan-sai (Shinto) Shinto New Year
3	Bank Holiday
5	Birthday of Guru Gobind Singh (Sikh)
6	Epiphany (Christian)
7	Feast of the Nativity (Orthodox Christian)
13	Maghi – Lohri (Sikh)
14	Makar Sankranti (Hindu) Harvest festival
17	Tu B'Shevat (Jewish) The Jewish New Year for trees
18	Mahayana New Year (Buddhist)
27	Holocaust Memorial Day
31	Birthday of Guru Har Rai – Sikh



February 2022

Special dates this month

LGBT History Month February 2022

World Hijab Day 4 February 2022

World Cancer Day 4 February 2022

Race Equality Week 7 - 13 February 2022

Sexual Abuse and Sexual Violence Awareness Week 7 - 13 February 2022

National Apprenticeship Week 7 - 13 February 2022

International Stand Up to
Bullying Day
25 February 2020

	February					
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Special Days in February

1	Chinese New Year (Confucian, Daoist, Buddhist)
5	Vasant Panchami (Hindus, Sikh, Jain) Festival that marks the preparation for the arrival of spring
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.
16	Magha Puja (Buddhist). Commemorates A historical meeting held between the Buddha and his first 1,250 disciples
28	Maha Shivaratri (Hindu) day and night fast in honour of Lord Shiva



March 2022

Special dates this month

World Hearing Day
3 March 2022

Eating Disorders
Awareness Week
7 - 13 March 2022

International Women's Day 8 March 2022

International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination 21 March 2022

World Down's Syndrome Day 21 March 2022

International Transgender
Day of Visibility
31 March 2022

	March					
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Special Days in March

1	Lailat al Miraj (Muslim) celebrates the Prophet Muhammad's night-time journey from Mecca to Jerusalem
1	Maha Shivratri festival dedicated to the Hindu god Shiva
2	Nineteen Day Fast (start) (Bahai) During this period Baha'is go without food or drink from sunrise to sunset.
2	Ash Wednesday (Christian) The first day of Lent.
14	Nanakshahi - Sikh New Year
15	Clean Monday (Eastern Orthodox) Start of Great Lent
17	Purim (Jewish) Commemorates the time when Jewish people living in Persia were saved by Esther.
18	Holi (Hindu) Spring Festival Hola Mohalla (Sikh)
18	Lailat al Bara'a (Islam) The Night of Forgiveness
21	Naw-Rúz (New Year) – (Baha'i) Norooz (New Year) – (Zoroastrian)
26	Khordad Sal (Zoroastrian) The birthday of Zoroaster



April 2022

Special dates this month

Autism Awareness Day
2 April 2022

Stephen Lawrence Day 22 April 2022

Lesbian Visibility Day 26 April 2022

World Day for Health and Safety at Work 28 April 2022

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Special Days in April

2	Ramadan (start) (Muslim) Ramadan is the Muslim month of fasting.
10	Rama Navami (Hindu) Hindus celebrate the birth of Lord Rama
10	Palm Sunday - The beginning of Holy Week - the week leading up to Easter
13	Songkran (Buddhist) Thai New Year
14	Vaisakhi (Sikh): Day to celebrate when Sikhism was born as a collective faith. Mahavir Jayanti (Jain): The most important religious holiday for Jains
15	Good Friday (Christian) Good Friday commemorates the execution of Jesus by crucifixion. (BANK HOLIDAY)
16	Passover (1st day) (Jewish) The start of the festival of Passover
17	Easter Sunday (Christian) Christians celebrate the Resurrection of Christ
4.0	Easter Monday (BANK HOLIDAY)
18	Birthday of Guru Tegh Bahadur and Guru Angad Dev – Sikh
21	Ridvan - First Day (Bahai) The start of a 12 day festival
29	Laylat al Qadr (Muslim) The holiest night in the Islamic calendar. The night the Quran was sent from heaven to Earth Ridvan - Ninth Day (Bahai)



May 2022

Special dates this month

Deaf Awareness Week 4 - 9 May 2022

Mental Health Awareness Week 9 - 15 May 2022

Vascular Birthmark Day 15 May 2022

International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia and Biphobia (IDAHOT) 17 May 2022

World Day for Cultural
Diversity Dialogue and
Development
21 May 2022

May						
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Special Days in May

2	Ridvan – Twelfth Day (Bahai)
2	Birthday of Guru Arjan Dev – Sikh
2	Eid-Ul-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.
2	Early May BANK HOLIDAY
3	Akshaya Tritiya (Hindu and Jain) Spring Festival
16	Vesak (Buddha Day) Festival that commemorates the birth, enlightenment, and death of Gautama Buddha in Theravada
23	Birthday of Guru Amar Das (Sikh)
24	Declaration of the Bab (Bahai) Bab was the Forerunner of Baha'u'llah, founder of the Baha'i faith.
27	Vesak (Buddha day) (Buddhist) The most important of the Buddhist festivals - The Buddha's birthday
29	Ascension of Baha'u'llah (Bahai)



June 2022

Special dates this month

Gypsy, Roma & Travellers
History Month
June 2022

Carers Week 6 - 12 June 2022

Learning Disabilities Week

14 – 20 June 2022

Refugee Week 20 - 26 June 2022

School Diversity Week 20 – 24 June 2022

Windrush Day 22 June 2022

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Special Days in June

2	Spring BANK HOLIDAY
3	Platinum Jubilee BANK HOLIDAY
5	Shavuot (Jewish) Shavuot is a 2 day festival that marks the time that the first harvest was taken to the Temple.
5	Pentecost - Whitsun (Christian) Commemorates the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the disciples and the birth of the Christian Church.
12	Trinity Sunday (Christian)
16	Martyrdom of Guru Arjan Dev (Sikh) Guru Arjan Dev was the fifth Sikh Guru and the first Sikh martyr.
21	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 2022

Special dates this month

People's Day

14 July 2022

World Youth Skills Day 15 July 2022

Disability Awareness Day 18 July 2022

Nelson Mandela Day 18 July 2022

World Hepatitis Day 28 July 2022

International Friendship Day 30 July 2022

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Special Days in July

5	Birthday of Guru Hargobind (Sikh)
7	Hajj (Muslim) Pilgrimage to Mecca, which takes place in the last month of the year and which all Muslims are expected to make at least once during their lifetime if they can afford to do so. It is one of the Five Pillars of Islam. Ends 12 July
8	Waqf al Arafa (Islam) The holiest day in the Islamic calendar - the day where, if sought after, millions of Muslims' sins are forgiven by Allah
9	Martyrdom of the Bab (Bahai) Anniversary of the Bab's execution in 1850
9	Eid-Ul-Adha (Islam) Festival of Sacrifice marking the day after Arafat, the most important day in the Hajj ritual. This is a four day holiday
13	Asalha Puja (Dharma Day) (Buddhist) The anniversary of the start of Buddha's teaching - his first sermon, "The Wheel of Truth", after his enlightenment.
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)
29	Al-Hijra/Muharram (Islam) New Year





2022

Diversity Calendar

International Day for the Remembrance of the Slave Trade and its Abolition

23 August

August 2022

Special dates this month

International Youth Day
12 August 2022

World Humanitarian Day 19 August 2022

International Day for the Remembrance of the Slave Trade and its Abolition 23 August 2022

Women's' Equality Day 26 August 2022

	August					
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Special Days in August

7	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.
8	Ashura (Islam) Marks the martyrdom of the Prophet's grandson, Hussein.
11	Raksha Bandhan (Hindu) celebrates the relationship between brothers and sisters.
13	Obon - Ullambana (Buddhist, Shinto)
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.
18	Krishna Janmashtami (Jayanti) Hindus celebrate the birth of Krishna
23	Paryushana – (Jain) The most important Jain festival of the year
29	Summer BANK HOLIDAY
29	Al-Hjira - Muharram (Islam) Islamic New Year. Marks the migration of Prophet Mohammad from Mecca to Medina.
31	Ganesh Charurthi Hindus celebrates the birth of Ganesh, god of wisdom and prosperity



September 2022

Special dates this month

International Literacy Day
8 September 2022

World Suicide Prevention Day
10 September 2022

International Equal Pay Day 21 September 2022

International Day of Peace 21 September 2022

World Alzheimer's Day 21 September 2022

> Bi Visibility Day 23 September 2022

National Inclusion Week 26 September – 2 October

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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
1	Samvatsari. Jains forgive and seek forgiveness from all living beings
8	Birthday of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Christian) Roman Catholic and Anglican churches celebrate the birth of Mary, mother of Jesus.
25	Rosh Hashanah (1st day) (Jewish) Jewish New Year. A two-day festival during which work is not permitted.
26	Navaratri (start) (Hindu) Navaratri) symbolises the triumph of good over evil and marks the start of autumn



October 2022

Special dates this month

Black History Month
October 2022

ADHD Awareness Month
October 2022

Dyslexia Awareness Week 3 - 9 October 2022

World Mental Health Day
10 October 2022

National Coming Out Day
11 October 2022

Stammering Awareness Day 22 October 2022

	October					
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Special Days in October

4	Dussehra (Hindu) Celebrates Lord Rama's victory over the evil Ravana.
5	Yom Kippur (Jewish) Day of Atonement - the most solemn day of the Jewish year.
7	Mawlid al-Nabi (Sunni Muslim) Birthday of the Prophet Muhammad
9	Birthday of Guru Ram Das (Sikh) The fourth of the Sikh Gurus.
10	Sukkot (Jewish) commemorates the years Jews spent in the desert on their way to the Promised Land.
24	Diwali (Hindu, Sikh, Jainism) Diwali, the festival of lights is the most popular of all the South Asian festivals
25	Birth of the Bab (Bahai) Celebrates the birth of the precursor of the founder of the Baha'i faith.
26	Birth of Baha'u'llah (Bahai) This day celebrates the birth in 1817 of the founder of the Baha'i faith.





VITAL ERIMIS

2022

Diversity Calendar

November 2022

Special dates this month

Islamophobia Awareness Month November 2022

Inter-Faith Week
13 - 20 November 2022

Anti-Bullying Week 14 - 18 November 2022

International Day of
Tolerance
16 November 2022

Transgender Day of Remembrance/Awareness 20 November 2022

International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women 25 November 2022

	November					
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Special Days in November

2	All Souls' Day (Christian) All Souls' Day is an opportunity to commemorate the faithful departed.
2	Coronation of Emperor Haile Selassie I (Rastafari) Haile Selassie was the Emperor of Ethiopia.
8	Birthday of Guru Nanak Dev Ji Sahib (Sikh) Founder of the Sikh religion
11	Armistice Day (Multifaith) Marks the end of the First World War
24	Martyrdom of Guru Tegh Bahadur (Sikh) Guru Tegh Bahadur was the ninth Sikh Guru
24	Day of the Covenant (Bahai) Day to celebrate the appointment of 'Abdu'l-Bahá as the Centre of Baha'u'llah's Covenant
27	Advent Sunday (Christian) The beginning of the ecclesiastical year
28	Ascension of Abdu'l-Baha (Bahai) Holy day that commemorates the death of 'Abdu'l-Bahá.



December 2022

Special dates this month

World AIDS Day
1 December 2022

Abolition of Slavery

2 December 2022

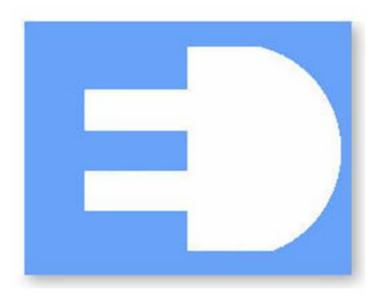
International Day of Persons
with Disabilities
3 December 2022

Human Rights Day
10 December 2022

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Special Days in December

c	Bodhi Day (Buddhist) On Bodhi day some Buddhists celebrate Gautama's attainment of enlightenment under the Bodhi tree at Bodhgaya, India.
8	Feast of the Immaculate Conception (Catholic) Celebrated by Roman Catholics who remember Mary's conception as being without sin, therefore, immaculate.
18	Hanukkah (Jewish) Hanukkah is the Festival of Lights and marks the restoration of the temple by the Maccabees in 164 BCE.
25	Christmas Day (Christian) - Western Christians celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ.
	Boxing Day - BANK HOLIDAY
26	Zarathosht Diso Zoroastrians remember the death of their prophet, Zarathushtra.
	Kwanzaa celebrates African culture and traditions
27	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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