

2023

Diversity Calendar



Equality and Diversity UK

January 2023

Holocaust Memorial Day

27th January 2022



2023

Diversity Calendar

Annelies Marie Frank, (born June 12, 1929 - died February/March 1945, Bergen-Belsen concentration camp)

January 2023

Special dates this month

World Braille Day
4 January 2023

World Religion Day
15 January 2023

**International Day of
Education**
24 January 2023

Holocaust Memorial Day
27 January 2023

January						
Mon	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
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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 Gantan-sai (Shinto) Shinto New Year
2	Bank Holiday
5	Birthday of Guru Gobind Singh (Sikh)
6	Epiphany (Christian)
7	Feast of the Nativity (Orthodox Christian) Mahayana New Year (Buddhist)
13	Maghi – Lohri (Sikh)
14	Makar Sankranti (Hindu) Harvest festival
22	Chinese New Year (Confucian, Daoist, Buddhist) – Year of the Rabbit
26	Vasant Panchami (Hindus, Sikh, Jain) Festival that marks the preparation for the arrival of spring
27	Holocaust Memorial Day

2023

Diversity Calendar

February 2023

LGBT History Month
February



February 2023

Special dates this month

LGBT History Month
February 2023

World Hijab Day
1 February 2023

Race Equality Week
6 - 12 February 2023

**Sexual Abuse and Sexual
Violence Awareness Week**
6 - 12 February 2023

National Apprenticeship Week
6 - 12 February 2023

**International Stand Up to
Bullying Day**
24 February 2023

Eating Disorders Awareness Week
28 Feb - 6 March 2023

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

3	Birthday of Guru Har Rai – Sikh
6	Tu B'Shevat (Jewish) The Jewish New Year for trees
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.
18	Maha Shivaratri (Hindu) day and night fast in honour of Lord Shiva Lailat al Miraj (Muslim) celebrates the Prophet Muhammad's night-time journey from Mecca to Jerusalem Maha Shivratri festival dedicated to the Hindu god Shiva
21	Losar - New year in Tibet, Nepal and Bhutan
22	Ash Wednesday (Christian) The first day of Lent.
27	Clean Monday (Eastern Orthodox) Start of Great Lent

A large, dense crowd of people is celebrating Holi, the Hindu festival of colors. In the foreground, a man with a long grey beard and a red kurta is the central figure. His face and beard are covered in yellow and pink powder. He has his arms raised high in the air, pointing upwards with his right hand and holding a small object in his left. He appears to be shouting or singing with joy. Around him, many other people are also covered in various colors of powder (yellow, pink, blue, green). Some are looking towards the camera, while others are looking away, immersed in the celebration. The background is filled with more people and some greenery, suggesting an outdoor setting. The overall atmosphere is one of joy, energy, and community.

Holi
Spring Festival



2023

Diversity Calendar

March 2023

March 2023

Special dates this month

World Hearing Day
3 March 2023

International Women's Day
8 March 2023

**International Day for the
Elimination of Racial
Discrimination**
21 March 2023

World Down's Syndrome Day
21 March 2023

**International Transgender
Day of Visibility**
31 March 2023

March						
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	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.
6	Magha Puja (Buddhist). Commemorates A historical meeting held between the Buddha and his first 1,250 disciples
7	Purim (Jewish) Commemorates the time when Jewish people living in Persia were saved by Esther.
8	Holi (Hindu) Spring Festival Hola Mohalla (Sikh) Lailat al Bara'a (Islam) The Night of Forgiveness
21	Naw-Rúz (New Year) – (Baha'i) Norooz (New Year) – (Zoroastrian)
22	Ramadan (start) (Muslim) Ramadan is the Muslim month of fasting.
26	Khordad Sal (Zoroastrian) The birthday of Zoroaster
30	Rama Navami (Hindu) Hindus celebrate the birth of Lord Rama

2023

Diversity Calendar

April 2023

Easter

April 2023

Special dates this month

Autism Awareness Day

2 April 2023

Stephen Lawrence Day

22 April 2023

Lesbian Visibility Week

24 – 30 April 2023

World Day for Health and

Safety at Work

28 April 2023

April						
Mon	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
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17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

Special Days in April

2	Palm Sunday - The beginning of Holy Week - the week leading up to Easter
4	Mahavir Jayanti (Jain): The most important religious holiday for Jains
5	Passover (1st day) (Jewish) The start of the festival of Passover
7	Good Friday (Christian) Good Friday commemorates the execution of Jesus by crucifixion. (BANK HOLIDAY)
9	Easter Sunday (Christian) Christians celebrate the Resurrection of Christ
10	Easter Monday (BANK HOLIDAY)
13	Songkran (Buddhist) Thai New Year
14	Vaisakhi (Sikh): Day to celebrate when Sikhism was born as a collective faith.
18	Laylat al Qadr (Muslim) The holiest night in the Islamic calendar. The night the Quran was sent from heaven to Earth
21	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. Ridvan - First Day (Bahai) The start of a 12 day festival
22	Akshaya Tritiya (Hindu and Jain) Spring Festival
29	Ridvan - Ninth Day (Bahai)

2023

Diversity Calendar

May 2023

Deaf Awareness Week
1st – 7th May 2023

May 2023

Special dates this month

#WeStandTogether Month
May 2023

Deaf Awareness Week
1 - 7 May 2023

Mental Health Awareness Week
13 - 20 May 2023

Vascular Birthmark Day
15 May 2023


International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia and Biphobia (IDAHOTB)
17 May 2023

World Day for Cultural Diversity Dialogue and Development
21 May 2023

May						
Mon	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
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22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Special Days in May

1	Early May BANK HOLIDAY
2	Ridvan – Twelfth Day (Bahai)
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.
26	Shavuot (Jewish) Shavuot is a 2 day festival that marks the time that the first harvest was taken to the Temple.
28	Pentecost - Whitsun (Christian) Commemorates the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the disciples and the birth of the Christian Church.
29	Ascension of Baha'u'llah (Bahai)
29	Spring Bank Holiday

A black and white photograph of four Black men in a ship's cabin. Three men are seated on a bunk bed; the man on the left is leaning back, the man in the middle is wearing a hat and looking towards the camera, and the man on the right is wearing a pinstripe suit and hat, looking off to the side. A fourth man is seated on the floor in the foreground, also wearing a hat and looking towards the camera. The cabin has a chain-link ceiling and wooden walls.

Windrush Day
22nd June



2023

Diversity Calendar

June 2023

June 2023

Special dates this month

**Gypsy, Roma & Travellers
History Month**
June 2023

Carers Week
5 - 11 June 2023

Learning Disabilities Week
19 – 25 June 2023

Refugee Week
19 - 25 June 2023

Windrush Day
22 June 2023

School Diversity Week
26 – 30 June 2023

June						
Mon	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
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12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

Special Days in June

2	Vesak (Buddha Day) Festival that commemorates the birth, enlightenment, and death of Gautama Buddha in Theravada. The most important of the Buddhist festivals
4	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
26	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 1 July
27	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
28	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
29	St Peter and St Paul's Day (Christian) The martyrdoms of both these saints are observed by the Church today

If all you see is a disability, you will miss...



2023

Diversity Calendar

Disability
Awareness Day
16th July

July 2023

July 2023

Special dates this month

International Non-Binary

People's Day

14 July 2023

World Youth Skills Day

15 July 2023

Disability Awareness Day

16 July 2023

Nelson Mandela Day

18 July 2023

World Hepatitis Day

28 July 2023

International Friendship Day

30 July 2023

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

Special Days in July

3	Asalha Puja (Dharma Day) (Buddhist) The anniversary of the start of Buddha's teaching - his first sermon, "The Wheel of Truth", after his enlightenment.
9	Martyrdom of the Bab (Bahai) Anniversary of the Bab's execution in 1850
19	Al-Hijra/Muharram (Islam) Islamic New Year. Marks the migration of Prophet Mohammad from Mecca to Medina
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)
27	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. Ashura (Islam) Marks the martyrdom of the Prophet's grandson, Hussein.

August 2023

Women's' Equality Day

26 August



Leicestershire
County Council

2023

Diversity Calendar

August 2023

Special dates this month

International Youth Day
12 August 2023

World Humanitarian Day
19 August 2023

**International Day for the
Remembrance of the Slave
Trade and its Abolition**
23 August 2023

Women's' Equality Day
26 August 2023

August						
Mon	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
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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 August

13	Obon - Ullambana (Buddhist, Shinto)
11	Paryushana – (Jain) The most important Jain festival of the year
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.
28	Summer BANK HOLIDAY
30	Raksha Bandhan (Hindu) celebrates the relationship between brothers and sisters.

September 2023

Ganesh Charurthi
19th September



2023

Diversity Calendar

September 2023

Special dates this month

International Literacy Day

8 September 2023

World Suicide Prevention Day

10 September 2023

International Equal Pay Day

18 September 2023

International Day of Peace

21 September 2023

World Alzheimer's Day

21 September 2023

Bi Visibility Day

23 September 2023

National Inclusion Week

25 September – 1 October

September						
Mon	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
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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 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
6	Krishna Janmashtami (Jayanti) Hindus celebrate the birth of Krishna
8	Birthday of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Christian) Roman Catholic and Anglican churches celebrate the birth of Mary, mother of Jesus.
15	Rosh Hashanah (1st day) (Jewish) Jewish New Year. A two-day festival during which work is not permitted.
19	Ganesh Charurthi Hindus celebrates the birth of Ganesh, god of wisdom and prosperity
19	Samvatsari. Jains forgive and seek forgiveness from all living beings
25	Yom Kippur (Jewish) Day of Atonement - the most solemn day of the Jewish year.
27	Mawlid al-Nabi (Sunni Muslim) Birthday of the Prophet Muhammad
29	Sukkot - 1st day (Jewish) . 7 day festival commemorates the years Jews spent in the desert on their way to the Promised Land.



Black History Month



Leicestershire
County Council

2023

Diversity Calendar

October 2023

October 2023

Special dates this month

Black History Month

October 2023

Breast Cancer Awareness Month

October 2023

ADHD Awareness Month

October 2023

Dyslexia Awareness Week

2 - 8 October 2023

National Coming Out Day

11 October 2023

Stammering Awareness Day

22 October 2023

ACE Week

22 - 28 October 2023

October						
Mon	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
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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.
15	Navaratri (start) (Hindu) Navaratri symbolises the triumph of good over evil and marks the start of autumn
16	Birth of the Bab (Bahai) Celebrates the birth of the precursor of the founder of the Baha'i faith.
17	Birth of Baha'u'llah (Bahai) This day celebrates the birth in 1817 of the founder of the Baha'i faith.
23	Dussehra (Hindu) Celebrates Lord Rama's victory over the evil Ravana.

Remembrance Day

November 11



2023

Diversity Calendar

November 2023

November 2023

Special dates this month

Islamophobia Awareness Month
November 2023

Inter-Faith Week
13 - 19 November 2023

Anti-Bullying Week
13 - 17 November 2023

World Diabetes Day
14 November 2023

International Day of Tolerance
16 November 2023

Transgender Day of Remembrance/Awareness
20 November 2023

Elimination of Violence against Women Day
25 November 2023

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.
11	Remembrance Day (Multifaith) to honour armed forces members who have died in the line of duty
12	Diwali (Hindu, Sikh, Jainism) Diwali, the festival of lights is the most popular of all the South Asian festivals
24	Martyrdom of Guru Tegh Bahadur (Sikh) Guru Tegh Bahadur was the ninth Sikh Guru
25	Day of the Covenant (Bahai) Day to celebrate the appointment of 'Abdu'l-Bahá as the Centre of Baha'u'llah's Covenant
27	Birthday of Guru Nanak Dev Ji Sahib (Sikh) Founder of the Sikh religion
28	Ascension of Abdu'l-Baha (Bahai) Holy day that commemorates the death of 'Abdu'l-Bahá.

2023

Diversity Calendar

Kwanzaa



December 2023

December 2023

Special dates this month

World AIDS Day
1 December 2023

**International Day for the
Abolition of Slavery**
2 December 2023

**International Day of Persons
with Disabilities**
3 December 2023

Human Rights Day
10 December 2023

December						
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 December

3	Advent Sunday (Christian) The beginning of the ecclesiastical year
7	Hanukkah (Jewish) Hanukkah is the 8 day Festival of Lights and marks the restoration of the temple by the Maccabees in 164 BCE.
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 – BANK HOLIDAY Western Christians celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ.
26	Boxing Day - BANK HOLIDAY Zarathosht Diso Zoroastrians remember the death of their prophet, Zarathushtra. Kwanzaa celebrates African culture and traditions



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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