



Equality and Diversity UK  
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Diversity  
Calendar  
2024



Leicestershire  
County Council



**January 2024**

Holocaust  
Memorial Day  
27th January



**Leicestershire  
County Council**

# January 2024

## Special dates this month

**World Braille Day**  
4 January

**World Religion Day**  
21 January

**International Day of Education**  
24 January

**Holocaust Memorial Day**  
27 January

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)
1	Gantan-sai (Shinto) - Shinto New Year
6	Epiphany (Christian)
7	Christmas Day (Orthodox Christian)
13	Maghi – Lohri (Sikh)
17	Birthday of Guru Gobind Singh (Sikh )
25	Mahayana New Year - Buddhist
25	Tu B'Shevat (Jewish) - The Jewish New Year for trees
27	Holocaust Memorial Day



**February 2024**

LGBT History  
Month



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# February 2024

## LGBTQ History Month

### Special dates this month

**World Hijab Day**  
1 February

**Sexual Abuse and Sexual Violence Awareness Week**  
5 – 11 February

**Race Equality Week**  
5 – 11 February

**National Apprenticeship Week**  
5 – 11 February

**Stand Up to Bullying Day**  
24 February

**Eating Disorders Awareness Week**  
28 February - 5 March

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	29			

## Special Days in February

3	Rissun (Setsubun) (Shinto) - A Spring festival that marks the division between Winter and Spring
6	Lailat al Miraj – Islam
10	Chinese New Year (Confucian, Daoist, Buddhist)
14	Vasant Panchami (Hindu) - Festival that welcomes spring
14	Ash Wednesday (Christian) - The first day of Lent.
15	Nirvana day (Buddhist) - Festival marking the anniversary of Buddha's death
22	Birthday of Guru Har Rai – Sikh
24	Magha Puja (Buddhist)
24	Lailat al Bara'a (Islam) - The Night of Forgiveness



March 2024

Women's History  
Month



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# March 2024

## Women's History Month

### Special dates this month

**World Hearing Day**  
**3 March**

**International Women's Day**  
**8 March**

**Down's Syndrome Awareness  
Week**  
**20 - 26 March**

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

**Elimination of Racial  
Discrimination Day**  
**21 March**

**Transgender Day of Visibility**  
**31 March**

March						
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 March

<b>6</b>	Ash Wednesday (Christian) - The first day of Lent.
<b>8</b>	Shivaratri (Hindu) - Day and night fast in honour of Lord Shiva
<b>11</b>	Bali - Hindu New Year
<b>11</b>	Ramadan (start) (Muslim) - Ramadan is the Muslim month of fasting.
<b>20</b>	Naw-Ruz (Bahai, Zoroastrian) - New Year
<b>23</b>	Purim (Jewish) - Commemorates the time when Jewish people were saved by Esther.
<b>24</b>	Palm Sunday - The beginning of Holy Week
<b>25</b>	Holi (Hindu) - Spring Festival Hola Mohalla (Sikh)
<b>26</b>	Khordad Sal - Birthday of Zoroaster
<b>29</b>	Good Friday (Christian) - (BANK HOLIDAY)
<b>29</b>	Nineteen Day Fast (start) (Bahai) Baha'is go without food or drink from sunrise to sunset.
<b>31</b>	Easter Sunday (Christian) - Christians celebrate the Resurrection of Christ



April 2024

Stephen  
Lawrence Day  
22nd April



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# April 2024

## Special dates this month

**Autism Awareness Day**  
**2 April**

**Stephen Lawrence Day**  
**22 April**

**National Earth Day**  
**22 April**

**Lesbian Visibility Week**  
**22 – 28 April**

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

April						
Mon	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
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29	30					

## Special Days in April

1	Easter Monday (BANK HOLIDAY)
6	Laylat al Qadr (Muslim) - The holiest night in the Islamic calendar.
9	Eid-UI-Fitr (Muslim) - End of Ramadan. Muslims celebrate the end of fasting
11	Birthday of Guru Tegh Bahadur – Sikh
13	Vaisakhi – Sikh New Year
17	Rama Navami (Hindu) - Hindus celebrate the birth of Lord Rama
20	Ridvan - first day (Bahai)
21	Birthday of Guru Angad Dev – Sikh
21	Mahavir Jayanti (Jain) - The most important religious holiday for Jains
22	Passover (1st day) (Jewish)
24	Theravada New Year (Buddhist)
28	Ridvan - Ninth Day (Bahai)



May 2024

Deaf Awareness  
Week  
6 – 12 May



# May 2024

**#WeStandTogether  
Month**

**Special dates this  
month**

**Deaf Awareness Week  
6 - 12 May**

**Mental Health Awareness Week  
6 - 12 May**

**Vascular Birthmark Day  
15 May**

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

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

May						
Mon	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
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6	7	8	9	10	11	12
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20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

## Special Days in May

<b>2</b>	Ridvan – Twelfth Day (Bahai)
<b>4</b>	Birthday of Guru Amar Das (Sikh)
<b>6</b>	Early May BANK HOLIDAY
<b>9</b>	Ascension Day (Christian) - marks the last earthly appearance of Christ after his resurrection.
<b>10</b>	Akshaya Tritiya (Hindus and Jains) -Spring time festival
<b>12</b>	Birthday of Guru Arjan Dev – Sikh
<b>15</b>	Vascular Birthmark Day
<b>23</b>	Declaration of the Bab (Bahai) - Bab was the Forerunner of Baha'u'llah, founder of the Baha'i faith.
<b>23</b>	Vesak (Buddha day) (Buddhist) - The most important of the Buddhist festivals
<b>27</b>	Spring BANK HOLIDAY
<b>27</b>	Ascension of Baha'u'llah (Bahai)



**June 2024**

Pride Month



**Leicestershire  
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# June 2024

**Pride Month**  
**Gypsy, Roma & Travellers History Month**

## Special dates this month

**Volunteers' Week**  
**1 - 7 June**

**Carers Week**  
**10 - 16 June**

**Refugee Week**  
**16 - 22 June**

**Learning Disabilities Week**  
**17 – 23 June**

**Windrush Day**  
**22 June**

**School Diversity Week**  
**24 – 28 June**

June						
Mon	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
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## Special Days in June

<b>10</b>	Martyrdom of Guru Arjan Dev (Sikh) - Guru Arjan Dev was the fifth Sikh Guru and the first Sikh martyr.
<b>11</b>	Shavuot (Jewish) - Shavuot is a 2 day festival that marks the time that the first harvest was taken to the Temple.
<b>16</b>	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
<b>19</b>	Pentecost - Whitsun (Christian) - Commemorates the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the disciples and the birth of the Christian Church.
<b>20</b>	Summer Solstice - Litha (Pagan) - Longest day of the year
<b>29</b>	St Peter and St Paul's Day (Christian) -The martyrdoms of both these saints are observed on this day



July 2024

Disability  
Awareness Day  
14th July



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# July 2024

## Special dates this month

**Non-Binary People's Day**  
14 July

**Disability Awareness Day**  
14 July

**World Youth Skills Day**  
15 July

**Nelson Mandela Day**  
18 July

**International Friendship Day**  
30 July

July						
Mon	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
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15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

## Special Days in July

5	Birthday of Guru Hargobind (Sikh)
7	Al-Hjira - Muharram (Islam) - Islamic New Year. Marks the migration of the Prophet Mohammad from Mecca to Medina.
8	Martyrdom of the Bab (Bahai) - Anniversary of the Bab's execution in 1850 in Tabriz, Iran.
11	Birthday of Guru Har Krishan (Sikh)
16	Ashura (Islam) - Marks the martyrdom of the Prophet's grandson, Hussein.
21	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) - Emperor of Ethiopia.



August 2024

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



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# August 2024

## Special dates this month

**International Youth Day**  
**12 August**

**World Humanitarian Day**  
**19 August**

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

**Women's' Equality Day**  
**26 August**

August						
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 August

12	Tisha B'Av (Jewish)- A solemn day that commemorates a series of tragedies that have befallen the Jewish people over the years,
13	Obon - Ullambana (Buddhist, Shinto) - Ghost Festival," during which people celebrate their dead loved ones,
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.
19	Raksha Bandhan (Hindu) - celebrates the relationship between brothers and sisters.
26	Summer BANK HOLIDAY
26	Krishna Janmashtami (Jayanti) - Hindus celebrate the birth of Krishna
31	Paryushan - The most important Jain festival of the year



# WORLD ALZHEIMER'S DAY

September 2024

World Alzheimer's  
Day  
21st September



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# September 2024

East and South East Asian Heritage Month

Special dates this month

International Literacy Day  
8 September

International Equal Pay Day  
18 September

World Alzheimer’s Day  
21 September

International Day of Peace  
21 September

Bi Visibility Day  
23 September

National Inclusion Week  
23 - 29 September

September						
Mon	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
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16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

## Special Days in September

6	Ganesh Charurthi - Hindus celebrates the birth of Ganesh, god of wisdom and prosperity.
8	Birthday of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Christian) - Roman Catholic and Anglican churches celebrate the birth of Mary, mother of Jesus.
15	Milad un Nabi (Sunni Muslim) - Birthday of the Prophet Muhammad
20	Milad un Nabi (Shia Muslim) - Birthday of the Prophet Muhammad



October 2024

Black History Month



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# October 2024

**Black History Month**

**Breast Cancer  
Awareness Month**

**ADHD Awareness  
Month**

**Special dates this  
month**

**World Mental Health Day**  
**10 October**

**National Coming Out Day**  
**11 October**

**Anti Slavery Day**  
**18 October**

**World Menopause Day**  
**18 October**

**ACE Week**  
**22 - 28 October**

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

<b>2</b>	Rosh Hashanah (1st day) (Jewish) - Jewish New Year.
<b>3</b>	Navaratri (start) (Hindu) - Navaratri symbolises the triumph of good over evil and marks the start of autumn
<b>11</b>	Yom Kippur (Jewish) - Day of Atonement - the most solemn day of the Jewish year.
<b>12</b>	Dasara (Hindu) - Celebrates Lord Rama's victory over the evil Ravana.
<b>16</b>	Sukkot (Jewish) - commemorates the years Jews spent in the desert on their way to the Promised Land.
<b>20</b>	Birth of Guru Granth Sahib - the central holy religious script of Sikhism
<b>30</b>	Birthday of Guru Ram Das (Sikh) - The fourth of the Sikh Gurus.
<b>31</b>	Diwali (Hindu, Sikh, Jainism) - the festival of lights

# International Transgender Day of Remembrance



November 2024

International  
Transgender Day  
of Remembrance  
20th November



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# November 2024

Islamophobia Awareness Month

Special dates this month

Inter-Faith Week  
10-17 November

International Day of Tolerance  
16 November

Anti-Bullying Week  
11-17 November

International Men’s Day  
19 November

Transgender Day of Remembrance/Awareness  
20 November

Elimination of Violence against Women Day  
25 November

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	Birth of the Bab (Bahai) - Celebrates the birth of the precursor of the founder of the Baha'i faith.
2	Coronation of Emperor Haile Selassie I (Rastafari) - Haile Selassie was the Emperor of Ethiopia.
3	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
27	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



December 2024

Hanukkah  
25<sup>th</sup> December



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# December 2024

## Special dates this month

World AIDS Day  
1 December

International Day for the  
Abolition of Slavery  
2 December

International Day of Persons  
with Disabilities  
3 December

Human Rights Day  
10 December

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

1	Advent Sunday (Christian) - The beginning of the ecclesiastical year
8	Bodhi Day (Buddhist) - Buddhists celebrate Gautama's attainment of enlightenment under the Bodhi tree at Bodhgaya, India.
9	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) BANK HOLIDAY - the birth of Jesus Christ.
25	Hanukkah (Jewish) - Hanukkah is the Festival of Lights and marks the restoration of the temple
26	Boxing Day - BANK HOLIDAY
26	Zarathosht Diso - Zoroastrians remember the death of their prophet, Zoroaster.



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

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