

BFAWU Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Calendar 2026



Awareness and Events

Cervical Cancer Awareness Month
Alcohol Change UKs Dry January
Thyroid awareness month
4th World braille day
18th World religion day
19th Martin Luther King Jr day
24th International day of education
25th Robert Burns night (Burns night)
27th January Holocaust Memorial Day

Religious and Cultural

1st Solemnity of Mary, mother of God Catholic *Christian*
Rohini vrat *Jain*
Gantan-sai (new year) *Shinto*
1st to 7th Hatsumode *Shinto*
3rd - 5th Mahayana new year *Buddhist*
5th Twelfth night *Christian*
6th Epiphany *Christian*
7th Feast of the nativity *Orthodox Christian*
11th Baptism of the lord Jesus *Catholic Christian*
12th Swami Vivekananda jayanti *Hindu*
Seijin no Hi *Shinto*
13th Lohri/Maghi *Hindu and Sikh*
14th Old new year *Orthodox Christian*
Makar sankranti *Hindu*
14th - 17th Pongal *Hindu*
16th Lailat al-Miraj *Islam*
Meru trayodashi *Jain*
18th - 25th Week of prayer for Christian unity *Christian*
19th Timkat Ethiopian & Feast of the Theophany *Orthodox Christian*
23rd Vasant panchami *Hindu, Sikh and Jain*
25th Conversion of saint Paul *Christian*
Zacchaeus Sunday *Orthodox Christian*
28th Rohini vrat *Jain*
31st Guru Harrai jayanti *Sikh*

January

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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Awareness and Events

LGBTQ+ History Month
UK National Heart Month
Raynaud's Awareness month
1st World hijab day
1st -7th World interfaith harmony week
4th World cancer day
5th Time to talk day
5th - 11th UK race equality week
6th International day of zero tolerance to FGM (female genital mutilation)
9th - 15th Children's mental health week
10th Safer internet day
11th International day of women and girls in Science
12th Red hand day for child soldiers
15th International childhood cancer day
17th World human spirit day
20th World day of social justice
21st International mother language day

Religious and Cultural

1st Triodion begins *Orthodox Christian*
Thaipusam *Hindu*
2nd Tu BiShvat *Judaism*
Imbolc/Candlemas *Wicca and Pagan*
3rd Lailat al Bara'ah *Islam*
Setsubun-sai *Shinto*
8th Sunday of the prodigal son *Orthodox Christian*
14th Saint Valentine's day *Christian*
Saturday of souls *Orthodox Christian*
15th Meatfare Sunday *Orthodox Christian*
Nirvana day *Buddhist*
15th - 16th Maha Shivratri *Hindu*
16th Shrove Monday *Christian*
17th Shrove Tuesday *Christian*
Lunar new year *Confucian, Daoist and Buddhist*
18th Ash Wednesday *Christian*
Losar begins *Buddhist*
Ramadan begins *Islam*
21st Saturday of souls *Orthodox Christian*
22nd Feast of the chair of saint Peter *Catholic Christian*
Cheesefare Sunday *Orthodox Christian*
23rd Great Lent begins *Orthodox Christian*
Phalguna ashtahnika begins *Jain*
25th Rohini vrat *Jain*
25th Feb - 1st March Intercalary days *Baha'i*
28th Saturday of souls *Orthodox Christian*

February

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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Awareness and Events

Prostrate awareness month
Ovarian Cancer awareness month
Marie Curies, great daffodil appeal month
Womens history month
1st International Zero Discrimination day
 International Wheelchair day
3rd World hearing day
8th International Womens day
15th International day to combat islamophobia
 Mother's day
16th - 22nd Neurodiversity celebration week
20th Spring equinox
21st World down syndrome day
 International day of the Elimination of Racial Discrimination
24th World tuberculosis (TB) day
25th International Day of remembrance of the Victims of Slavery and the transatlantic slave trade
30th World bipolar day
31st International transgender day of visibility

Religious and Cultural

1st St David's day *Christian*
 Feast of Orthodoxy *Orthodox Christian*
2nd Nineteen-day fast begins *Baha'i*
 Holika dahan *Hindu*
 Phalguna chaumasi chaudas *Jain*
3rd Chötrul düchen *Buddhist*
 Hina matsuri *Shinto*
 Magha puja *Buddhist*
 Purim *Judaism*
 Holi *Hindu*
4th - 6th Hola mohalla *Sikh*
11th Varshitapa arambha *Jain*
14th Nanakshahi (new year) *Sikh*
16th Laylat al-Qadr *Islam*
16th - 20th Hamaspathmaidyem Gahambar *Zoroastrian*
17th St Patrick's day *Christian*
19th Feast of saint Joseph *Christian*
 Chaitra navratri begins *Hindu*
 Ugadi (new year) *Hindu*
20th Eid al-Fitr *Islam*
 Shunbun no Hi *Shinto*
 Ostara *Wicca and Pagan*
 Nowruz (new year) *Persian and Zoroastrian*
21st Naw-Rúz *Bahá'í*
24th Rohini vrat *Jain*
25th Chaitra navapada oli begins *Jain*
 Annunciation of the lord *Catholic Christian*
 Annunciation to the Theotokos *Orthodox Christian*
 Annunciation of the virgin Mary *Christian*
26th Khordad sal *Zoroastrian*
 Rama navami *Hindu*
29th Palm Sunday *Catholic Christian*
31st Mahavir Swami jayanti *Jain*

March

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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Awareness and Events

Autism Acceptance Month
Stress awareness month
Bowel Cancer awareness month
Parkinson awareness month
1st Fools' day
2nd World autism awareness day
6th International asexuality day
7th World health day
8th International Romani day
22nd Earth day
Stephen Lawrence Day
25th World malaria day
26th Lesbian visibility day
28th International Workers Memorial Day/
World day for health and safety at work

Religious and Cultural

2nd Hanuman jayanti *Hindu*
Maundy Thursday *Christian*
2nd- 5th Theravada new year *Buddhist*
2nd- 9th Passover *Judaism*
3rd Good Friday *Christian*
4th Holy Saturday *Christian*
Lazarus Saturday *Orthodox Christian*
5th Easter Sunday *Christian*
Palm Sunday *Orthodox Christian*
6th Easter Monday *Christian*
7th Guru Tegh Bahadur jayanti *Sikh*
9th Guru Arjun Dev jayanti *Sikh*
Great and holy Thursday *Orthodox Christian*
10th Great and holy Friday *Orthodox Christian*
11th Great and holy Saturday *Orthodox Christian*
12th Pascha (Easter) *Orthodox Christian*
Divine mercy Sunday *Catholic Christian*
13th - 15th Songkran (Thai new year) *Buddhist*
14th Yom HaShoah *Judaism*
Puthandu *Hindu*
Vaisakhi *Hindu and Sikh*
18th Guru Angad Dev jayanti *Sikh*
19th Akshaya tritiya *Hindu and Jain*
Varshitapa parana *Jain*
20th Rohini vrat *Jain*
21st First day of Ridvan *Baha'i*
Grounation day *Rastafari*
23rd Saint George's day *Christian*
25th Feast of saint Mark the evangelist *Catholic Christian*
26th Mahavir Swami kevalagyan *Jain*
29th Ninth day of Ridvan *Baha'i*
30th Saint James the great's day *Orthodox Christian*
Guru Amar Das jayanti *Sikh*
Avalokiteshvara day *Buddhist*
30th Apr - 4th May Maidyozarem gahambar *Zoroastrian*

April

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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Awareness and Events

Stroke awareness month
Coeliac awareness month
National walking month
1st May Day/ International Workers Day
3rd International family equality day
4th - 10th Deaf awareness week
8th World Red Cross and Red Crescent day
11th - 17th Mental health awareness week
13th National day for staff networks
15th International day of families
17th International day against homophobia, transphobia and biphobia
21st Global accessibility awareness day
World day for cultural diversity for dialogue and development
22nd International day for biological diversity
24th Pansexual visibility day

Religious and Cultural

1st Beltane *Wicca and Pagan*
2nd Twelfth day of Ridvan *Baha'i*
3rd Feast of saints Philip and James *Catholic Christian*
5th Lag BaOmer *Judaism*
6th Midfeast *Orthodox Christian*
14th Ascension of the lord *Catholic Christian*
Feast of saint Matthias *Catholic Christian*
18th Rohini vrat *Jain*
21st Feast of the ascension *Orthodox Christian*
22nd - 23rd Shavuot *Judaism*
24th Declaration of the Báb *Baha'i*
Pentecost *Catholic Christian*
25th Hajj begins *Islam*
26th Day of Arafah *Islam*
27th Eid al-Adha begins *Islam*
29th Ascension of Baha'u'llah *Baha'i*
30th Saturday of souls *Orthodox Christian*
31st Vesak *Buddhist*
Pentecost *Catholic Christian*
Trinity Sunday *Catholic Christian*
Visitation of the blessed virgin Mary *Catholic Christian*
Saga dawa düchen *Buddhist*

May

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31					1	2
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Awareness and Events

Motor neurone disease awareness month

Stillbirth and neonatal death awareness month

Scleroderma awareness month

LGBTQ+ pride month

Gypsy, Roma and Traveller history month

4th International day of innocent children victims of aggression

9th - 15th Carer's Week

20th World Refugee week

22nd Windrush day

12th World day against child labour

14th Race unity day

15th World elder abuse awareness day

15th - 21th Refugee week

Men's health week

18th Autistic pride day

20th World refugee day

21st Summer solstice

Father's day

22nd UK Windrush day

22nd - 26th School diversity week

Religious and Cultural

4th Eid al-Ghadir * *Islam*

The feast of Corpus Christi *Catholic Christian*

8th The apostles' fast begins *Orthodox Christian*

12th Feast of the sacred heart of Jesus *Catholic Christian*

14th Rohini vrat *Jain*

Rice planting festival (Otaue matsuri) *Shinto*

16th Islamic new year *Islam*

Martyrdom of Guru Arjan Dev *Sikh*

21st Litha *Wicca and Pagan*

24th Nativity of saint John the baptist *Christian*

25th Day of Ashura *Islam*

29th Feast of saints Peter and Paul *Christian*

29th Jun - 3rd Jul – Maidyoshahem gahambar *Zoroastrian*

30th Guru Hargobind jayanti *Sikh*

June

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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Awareness and Events

UV safety awareness month
International women with alopecia month
Group B strep awareness month
Disability pride month
South Asian heritage month
14th International non-binary people's day
18th Nelson Mandela international day
18th Jul - 17th Aug South Asian heritage month
28th World hepatitis day

Religious and Cultural

3rd Feast of the saint Thomas the apostle *Christian*
10th Martyrdom of the Báb *Baha'i*
11th Rohini vrat *Jain*
15th Saint Vladimir the great day *Orthodox Christian*
20th Ashadha ashtahnika begins *Jain*
22nd Feast of saint Mary Magdalene *Christian*
23rd Tish'a B'av *Judaism*
 Birthday of emperor Haile Selassie *Rastafari*
24th Pioneer day Mormon *Christian*
25th Saint James the great's day *Christian*
28th Ashadha chaumasi chaudas *Jain*
29th Asalha puja (Dharma day) *Buddhist*
 The 15th of Av *Judaism*
 Guru purnima *Hindu, Buddhist and Jain*

July

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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Awareness and Events

Spinal Muscular atrophy awareness month

2nd - 9th Eisteddfod, Celebration of Welsh language

9th International day of the world's Indigenous people

12th International Youth Day

19th World humanitarian day

22nd International day commemorating the victims of acts of violence based on religion or belief

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

Religious and Cultural

1st Lammas *Christian*

Lughnasadh *Wicca and Pagan*

Fast in honour of the holy mother of the lord Jesus begins *Orthodox Christian*

4th Arba'een *Islam*

6th Feast of transfiguration *Catholic Christian*

Transfiguration of the lord *Orthodox Christian*

7th Guru Har Krishan jayanti *Sikh*

8th Rohini vrat *Jain*

8th - 17th Muktaf (Fravardeghan days) *Zoroastrian*

10th Feast of saint Lawrence *Christian*

13th - 15th Obon *Buddhist and Shinto*

15th Assumption of Mary *Catholic Christian*

Dormition of the Theotokos *Orthodox Christian*

16th Onam begins *Hindu*

22nd Feast of the queenship of Mary *Catholic Christian*

24th Feast of saint Bartholomew the apostle *Christian*

26th Mawlid al-Nabi *Islam*

27th Ullambana (hungry ghost festival) *Buddhist*

28th Raksha bandhan *Hindu*

Dormition of the mother of God *Orthodox Christian*

29th Beheading of saint John the baptist *Christian*

August

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30	31					1
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23	24	25	26	27	28	29

Awareness and Events

East and South East Asian heritage month

Sickle cell awareness month

Childhood cancer awareness month

Blood cancer awareness month

World Alzheimer's month

Urology awareness month

10th World suicide prevention day

15th World afro day's 'big hair assembly'

18th International equal pay day

21st World Alzheimer's day

23rd Autumn equinox

Bi visibility day

International day of sign languages

28th Sept - 4th Oct UK national inclusion week

Religious and Cultural

1st Ecclesiastical year begins *Orthodox Christian*

First installation of the Guru Granth Sahib *Sikh*

4th Krishna janmashtami *Hindu*

Rohini vrat *Jain*

8th Feast of the birth of the virgin Mary *Christian*

Nativity of the Theotokos *Orthodox Christian*

Paryushana parvarambha *Jain*

12th Guru Grinthe Sahib jayanti *Sikh*

12th - 13th Rosh Hashanah *Judaism*

12th - 16th Paitishahem gahambar *Zoroastrian*

14th Feast of the cross *Christian*

Ganesh chaturthi *Hindu*

15th Samvatsari parva *Jain*

21st Feast of saint Matthew *Christian*

Yom Kippur *Judaism*

23rd Mabon *Wicca and Pagan*

Autumnal equinox day (Shūbun no Hi) *Shinto*

24th Pavarana *Buddhist*

25th Anant chaturdashi *Hindu*

26th Pitri paksha begins *Hindu*

26th Sept - 2nd Oct – Sukkot * *Judaism*

27th Meskel Ethiopian *Orthodox Christian*

29th Feast of saint Michael and all angels *Christian*

September

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30	31	1	2	3	4	5
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Awareness and Events

Breast cancer awareness month
Down syndrome awareness month
Black history month
Lupus awareness month
World menopause month
Global diversity awareness month
1st Anniversary of the introduction of the Equality Act
International day of older persons
5th World teachers' day
6th World cerebral palsy day
8th World sight day
10th World mental health day
11th International day of the girl child
National coming out day
15th International day of rural women
16th Show Racism the Red Card's wear red day
17th International day for the eradication of poverty
18th Anti-slavery day
World menopause day
21st International pronouns day
26th Intersex awareness day
29th World stroke day

Religious and Cultural

1st Rohini vrat *Jain*
2nd Feast of the guardian angels *Catholic Christian*
Gandhi jayanti *Hindu*
Mehregan *Zoroastrian*
3rd Shemini Atzeret *Judaism*
4th Feast of St Francis of Assisi *Christian*
Simchat Torah *Judaism*
11th Sharada navratri begins *Hindu*
12th - 16th Ayathrem gahambar *Zoroastrian*
17th Ashwina navapada oli begins *Jain*
Durga puja begins *Hindu*
18th Feast of saint Luke *Christian*
20th Dussehra *Hindu*
Guru Granth Sahib coronation day *Sikh*
25th Kathina *Buddhist*
27th Guru Ram Das jayanti *Sikh*
28th Feast of saints Simon and Jude *Christian*
Rohini vrat *Jain*
29th Karwa chauth *Hindu*
31st All Hallows' eve *Christian*
Reformation day *Protestant Christian*

October

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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Awareness and Events

Lung cancer awareness month
Pancreatic cancer awareness month
Mouth cancer action month
Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease awareness month
Movember men's health awareness month
Disability history month
8th Remembrance Sunday
Intersex day of solidarity
11th Armistice day
13th World kindness day
13th - 19th Transgender awareness week
14th World diabetes day
16th International day for tolerance
19th International men's day
19th Nov - 20th Dec Disability history month
20th World children's day
Transgender day of remembrance
25th International day for the elimination of violence against women

Religious and Cultural

1st Feast of all the saints *Christian*
Samhain *Wicca and Pagan*
2nd All souls' day *Christian*
Anniversary of the coronation of emperor Haile Selassie I *Rastafari*
7th Tori no Ichi (first rooster day) *Shinto*
8th Bandi chhor divas *Sikh*
Diwali *Hindu, Sikh and Jain*
9th Feast of the dedication of the Archbasilica *Catholic Christian*
10th Birth of the Báb *Baha'i*
Birth of Baha'u'llah *Baha'i*
13th Chhath puja begins *Hindu*
15th Nativity fast begins *Orthodox Christian*
Shichi-go-san Shinto 16 – Kartik ashtahnika begins *Jain*
19th Tori no Ichi (second rooster day) *Shinto*
21st Presentation of the Theotokos *Orthodox Christian*
22nd Feast of Christ the king *Christian*
23rd Kartika chaumasi chaudas *Jain*
Niinamesai *Shinto*
24th Guru Nanak Dev jayanti *Sikh*
Kartika rathayatra *Jain*
Martyrdom of Guru Tegh Bahadur *Sikh*
25th Rohini vrat *Jain*
26th Day of the covenant *Baha'i*
28th Ascension of Abdu'l-Bahá *Baha'i*
29th Advent Sunday *Christian*
30th Saint Andrew's day *Christian*

November

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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Awareness and Events

Universal month for human rights

Decembeard

1st World AIDS day

2nd International day for the abolition of slavery

3rd International day of persons with disabilities

10th Human rights day

18th International migrants' day

20th International human solidarity day

21st Winter solstice

26th Boxing day

26th Dec - 1st Jan Kwanzaa

31st New year's eve/Hogmanay

Religious and Cultural

5th - 12th Hanukkah *Judaism*

6th Feast of saint Nicholas *Christian*

8th Feast of the immaculate conception *Catholic Christian*

Rohatsu (Bodhi day) *Buddhist*

12th Feast of our lady of Guadalupe *Catholic Christian*

13th Gaudete Sunday *Christian*

16th Dhanu sankranti *Hindu*

Las posadas starts *Catholic Christian*

19th Feast of saint Nicholas *Orthodox Christian*

20th Gita jayanti *Hindu*

21st Yule *Wicca and Pagan*

22nd Rohini vrat *Jain*

24th Christmas eve *Christian*

25th Christmas day *Christian*

Nativity of the lord *Catholic Christian*

Feast of the nativity of our lord *Orthodox Christian*

26th Feast of saint Stephen *Christian*

Zartosht no-diso *Zoroastrian*

Veer bal diwas (Martyrdom of Guru Gobind Singh Ji's sons) *Sikh*

27th Feast of the holy family *Catholic Christian*

29th Holy innocents' day *Christian*

31st Watch night *Christian*

Maidyarem gahambar begins *Zoroastrian*

December

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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