

Diversity Calendar 2025 GMCA GREATER MANCHESTER

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GREATER MANCHESTER FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE



January 2025

Holocaust Memorial Day 27 January GMCA

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January 2025

Special dates this month

World Braille Day
4 January

Martin Luther King Day 20 January

World Religion Day 21 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)
6	Birthday of Guru Gobind Singh (Sikh)
7	Christmas Day (Orthodox Christian)
13	Maghi – Harvest Festival and commemoration of the martyrdom of 40 Sikhs who died fighting the Mughal Empire army in 1705 (Sikh)
14	Lohri – Harvest Festival (Sikh)
14	Mahayana New Year - Buddhist
26	Lailat al Miraj – Islam
27	Holocaust Memorial Day
29	Chinese New Year (Confucian, Daoist, Buddhist)

HAPPY LGBT HISTORY MONTH



February 2025 GMCA GREATER MANCHESTER

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February 2025

LGBTQ+ History Month

World Hijab Day 1 February

GM Hate Crime Awareness Week 1–7 February

World Interfaith Harmony Week
1-7 February

Race Equality Week 3-9 February

Sexual Abuse and Sexual Violence Awareness Week 3-9 February

Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation 6 February

National Apprenticeship Week 10-16 February

International Day of Women and Girls in Science
11 February

World Day of Social Justice 20 February

Stand Up to Bullying Day 24 February

	February					
Mon	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
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3	4	5	6	7	8	9
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Ramadan

People may want to rearrange their working day to accommodate the timing of the fast.

Special Days in February

2	Vasant Panchami (Hindu) - Festival that welcomes spring
3	Rissun (Setsubun) (Shinto) - Spring festival marking the end of Winter and beginning of Spring
10	Birthday of Guru Har Rai – Sikh
12	Tu B'Shevat (Jewish) - The Jewish New Year for trees
12	Magha Puja (Buddhist)
13	Lailat al Bara'a (Islam) - The Night of Forgiveness
15	Nirvana day (Buddhist) - Festival marking the anniversary of Buddha's death
26	Shivaratri (Hindu) - Day and night fast in honour of Lord Shiva
28	Ramadan (start) (Muslim) - Ramadan is the Muslim month of fasting (ends 30 March)
29	Nineteen Day Fast (start) (Bahai) Baha'is go without food or drink from sunrise to sunset (ends 19 March)



INTERNATIONAL MOMENTS DAY

March 2025

International Women's Day 8 March GMCA

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March 2025

Women's History Month Gender Equality Month

World Hearing Day 3 March

International Women's Day 8 March

Neurodiversity Celebration Week

10-17 March

Down Syndrome Awareness Week 17-23 March

> Global Recycling Day 18 March

International Day of Happiness 20 March

World Down 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
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Special Days in March

5	Ash Wednesday (Christian) - The first day of Lent.
13	Purim (Jewish) - Commemorates the time when Jewish people were saved by Esther.
13	Palm Sunday - The beginning of Holy Week
14	Holi (Hindu) - Spring Festival Hola Mohalla (Sikh)
19	Naw-Ruz (Bahai, Zoroastrian) - New Year
26	Khordad Sal - Birthday of Zoroaster
27	Laylat al Qadr (Muslim) - The holiest night in the Islamic calendar.
29	Bali - Hindu New Year
30	Eid-Ul-Fitr (Muslim) - End of Ramadan. Muslims celebrate the end of fasting



April 2025

Autism Awareness Day 2 April GMCA

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April 2025

Autism Awareness Day
2 April

World Health Day
7 April

International Day for Spirituality and Service 16 April

Stephen Lawrence Day 22 April

National Earth Day
22 April

Lesbian Visibility Week 21-27 April

World Day for Health and Safety at Work 28 April

	April					
Mon	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
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Passover

Working is not permitted on the first 2 days nor the final 2 days of Passover

Special Days in April

6	Rama Navami (Hindu) - Hindus celebrate the birth of Lord Rama
10	Mahavir Jayanti (Jain) - The most important religious holiday for Jains
12	Passover (1st day) (Jewish) (ends 20 April)
14	Vaisakhi – Sikh New Year
18	Good Friday (BANK HOLIDAY)
18	Birthday Guru Tegh Bahadur – Sikh
20	Easter Sunday (Christian) - Christians celebrate the Resurrection of Christ
20	Ridvan - first day (Bahai) (ends 2 May)
20	Birthday of Guru Arjun Dev (Sikh)
21	Easter Monday (BANK HOLIDAY)
24	Theravada New Year (Buddhist)
28	Ridvan - Ninth Day (Bahai)
28	Birthday of Guru Angad Dev (Sikh)
30	Akshaya Tritiya (Hindus and Jains) - Spring time festival



May 2025

#WeStandTogether Month GMCA

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May 2025

#WeStandTogether Month

Mental Health Awareness
Month

International Workers' Day
1 May

Maternal Mental Health Week 5-11 May

Deaf Awareness Week 5-11 May

Mental Health Awareness Week 12-18 May

Vascular Birthmark Day
15 May

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

World Day for Cultural Diversity
Dialogue and Development
21 May

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

1	Ridvan – Twelfth Day (Bahai)
5	Early May BANK HOLIDAY
11	Birthday of Guru Amar Das (Sikh)
12	Vesak (Buddha day) (Buddhist) - The most important Buddhist festival. Buddha's birthday
22	Declaration of the Bab (Bahai) - Bab was the Forerunner of Baha'u'llah, founder of the Baha'i faith.
26	Spring BANK HOLIDAY
27	Ascension of Baha'u'llah (Bahai)
29	Ascension Day (Christian) - marks the last earthly appearance of Christ after his resurrection.



June 2025

Armed Forces Day 28 June

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June 2025

Pride Month

Gypsy, Roma & Travellers History Month

World Environment Day
5 June

Race Unity Day 8 June

Carers Week 9-15 June

Refugee Week 16-22 June

Learning Disabilities Week
17-23 June

International Day of Countering Hate Speech 18 June

> Juneteenth 19 June

World Refugee Day 20 June

Windrush Day 22 June

Armed Forces Day 28 June

	June					
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Shavuot

No work permitted during Shavuot

Special Days in June

1	Shavuot (Jewish) - Shavuot marks the time that the first harvest was taken to the Temple (ends 3 June)
6	Eid-Ul-Adha (Islam) - Festival of Sacrifice, the most important day in the Hajj ritual.
8	Pentecost - Whitsun (Christian) - Commemorates the birth of the Christian Church.
12	Birthday Guru Hargobind Singh (Sikh)
16	Martyrdom of Guru Arjan Dev (Sikh) - the fifth Sikh Guru and the first Sikh martyr.
21	Summer Solstice - Litha (Pagan) - Longest day of the year
27	Al-Hjira - Muharram (Islam) - New Year. Marks the migration of the Prophet Mohammad from Mecca to Medina
29	St Peter and St Paul's Day (Christian) -The martyrdoms of both are observed on this day



July 2025

Non-Binary People's Day 14 July GMCA

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July 2025

Special dates this month

World Population Day 11 July

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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Special Days in July

5	Ashura (Islam) - Marks the martyrdom of the Prophet's grandson, Hussein.
8	Martyrdom of the Bab (Bahai) - Anniversary of the Bab's execution in 1850 in Tabriz, Iran.
10	Asalha Puja (Dharma Day) (Buddhist) -The anniversary of the start of Buddha's teaching - his first sermon, "The Wheel of Truth", after his enlightenment.
19	Birthday of Guru Harkrishan Singh (Sikh)
23	Birthday of Haile Selassie I (Rastafari) - Emperor of Ethiopia.



August 2025

Greater Manchester Pride Event 23 August GMCA

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August 2025

East and South Asian Heritage Month 18 July – 17 August

International Youth Day
12 August

World Humanitarian Day 19 August

Manchester Pride Event 23 August

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

Women's Equality Day 26 August

International Day for People
of African Descent
31 August

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Special Days in August

2	Tisha B'Av (Jewish)- A solemn day that commemorates a series of tragedies that have befallen the Jewish people over the years,
9	Raksha Bandhan (Hindu) - celebrates the relationship between brothers and sisters.
15	Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Christian) - A Roman Catholic festival celebrating their belief that Mary, was taken body and soul into heaven.
16	Krishna Janmashtami (Hindu) – Celebration of the birth of Krishna
21	Paryushan - The most important Jain festival of the year (ends 28 August)
24	Birth of Guru Granth Sahib (Sikh) the central holy religious script of Sikhism
25	Summer BANK HOLIDAY
26	Ganesh Chaturthi - Hindus celebrates the birth of Ganesh, god of wisdom and prosperity.



September 2025

National Inclusion Week 23 – 29 September

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September 2025

World Sexual Health Day
4 September

Suicide Prevention Day 10 September

International Equal Pay Day
18 September

World Alzheimer's Day 21 September

International Day of Peace
21 September

Bi Visibility Week 16 - 23 September

National Inclusion Week 23 - 29 September

	September					
Mon	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
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29	30					

Rosh Hashanah

Work is not permitted for the two days of Rosh Hashanah

Special Days in September

4	Milad un Nabi (Sunni Muslim) - Birthday of the Prophet Muhammad
6	Obon - Ullambana (Buddhist, Shinto) - Ghost Festival," during which people celebrate their dead loved ones
8	Birthday of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Christian) - Roman Catholic and Anglican churches celebrate the birth of Mary, mother of Jesus.
22	Rosh Hashanah (1st day) (Jewish) - Jewish New Year (ends 24 September)
22	Navaratri (start) (Hindu) - Navaratri symbolises the triumph of good over evil and marks the start of autumn (ends 1 October)



October 2025 GMCA GREATER MANCHESTER

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Black History Month

October 2025

Black History Month
Breast Cancer
Awareness Month

ADHD Awareness Month

Older People

1 October

Day of Non-Violence
2 October

World Mental Health Day
10 October

National Coming Out Day 11 October

> Anti-Slavery Day 18 October

World Menopause Day
18 October

ACE Week
27 - 31 October

		O	ctobe	er		
Mon	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
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20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

Yom Kippur

Work is not permitted

Sukkot

Work is not permitted on first and last two days

Special Days in October

1	Yom Kippur (Jewish) - Day of Atonement - the most solemn day of the Jewish year.
2	Dasara (Hindu) - Celebrates Lord Rama's victory over the evil Ravana.
6	Sukkot (Jewish) - commemorates the years Jews spent in the desert on their way to the Promised Land (ends 13 October)
8	Birthday of Guru Ramdas (Sikh) - The fourth of the Sikh Gurus.
20	Diwali (Hindu, Sikh, Jainism) - the festival of lights
22	Birth of the Bab (Bahai) - Celebrates the birth of the precursor of the founder of the Baha'i faith.
23	Guru Granth Sahib Guryai Diwas - a celebration of the sacred hymns in the Guru Granth Sahib
23	Birth of Baha'u'llah (Bahai) - This day celebrates the birth in 1817 of the founder of the Baha'i faith.

25TH NOVEMBER WHITE RIBBON DAY **WEAR A RIBBON** MAKE THE PROMISE

End Men's Violence Against Women

November 2025

White Ribbon Day 25 November





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November 2025

Islamophobia Awareness Month

Stress Awareness Week
3-7 November

Intersex Day of Solidarity

8 November

Inter-Faith Week
10-16 November

Remembrance Day
11 November

International Day of Tolerance
16 November

Anti-Bullying Week
10-16 November

International Men's Day
19 November

Transgender Day of Remembrance/Awareness 20 November

Elimination of Violence against Women Day (White Ribbon Day) 25 November

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Special Days in November

2	Coronation of Emperor Haile Selassie I (Rastafari) - Haile Selassie was the Emperor of Ethiopia.
5	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
30	Advent Sunday (Christian) - The beginning of the ecclesiastical year



December 2025

Hannukah 14 – 22 Dece<u>mber</u> GMCA

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December 2025

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

Pansexual Pride Day
8 December

Human Rights Day
10 December

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

Special Days in December

8	Bodhi Day (Buddhist) - 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
14	Hanukkah (Jewish) - Hanukkah is the Festival of Lights and marks the restoration of the temple (ends 22 December)
25	Christmas Day (Christian). Birth of Jesus Christ. BANK HOLIDAY.
26	Boxing Day - BANK HOLIDAY
26	Zarathosht Diso - Zoroastrians remember the death of their prophet, Zoroaster.
27	Birthday of Guru Gobind Singh



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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.

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

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