



Equalities Newsletter

February/March 2020



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Calendar of Events



FEBRUARY

1st-28th	LGBT History Month
1st	World Interfaith Harmony Day
1st	World Hijab Day
9th	Autism Sunday
11th	International Day of Women and Girls in Science
12th	World Red Hand Day for Child Soldiers
20th	World Day of Social Justice
21st	International Mother Language Day
22nd	Purple Friday
24th	Fair Trade Fortnight

MARCH

1st	Zero Discrimination Day
1st	International Wheelchair Day
3rd	World Hearing Day
6th-15th	British Science Week
8th	International Women's Day
9th	Commonwealth Day
9th	Hindu festival of Holi
12th	International School Meals Day
21st	International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination
21st	World Down Syndrome Day

Welcome to the February/ March Equalities newsletter!

This newsletter aims to raise awareness of regular events, information, updates and to share good practice in Equalities.

We hope that you find this new format engaging, interesting and user-friendly! We welcome your feedback and suggestions for items to include.

Websites and Social Media

Each edition will feature links to some useful websites and social media. In this edition....

theantiracisteducator.com includes a **glossary of key terminology** and a **blog covering various themes**.

Equality Network@LGBTScotland (on Twitter)

The Equality Network is a leading Scottish lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex equality and human rights charity.

@GypsyTravellerM (on Twitter)

The Traveller Movement is a national charity working in partnership with Irish Traveller, Gypsy and Roma communities challenging discrimination and promoting inclusion.

Training

EQUALITIES TRAINING FOR SCHOOL EQUALITY CO-ORDINATORS CF 2435

Session 2: Friday 28th February 2020 Time: 1:30 to 3:30 Venue: Broughton HS

This training is designed to support school Equality Co-ordinators in their role and receives very positive evaluations. We encourage all Equality Co-ordinators to attend. It is a 3-part course and attendance at all three sessions is recommended.

RESPECTME TRAINING FOR EQUALITY CO-ORDINATORS / ANTI-BULLYING CHAMPIONS

We're working in partnership with **respectme**, Scotland's anti-bullying service, to support implementation of the revised Edinburgh policy 'Preventing and Responding to Bullying and Prejudice amongst Children and Young People'. There are 3 **respectme** training dates remaining:

Monday 24th February, Monday 9th March, Thursday 23rd April

Course Code: CF2775

Communities and Families Update

Equalities Steering Group

This group has been set up with the purpose of articulating the City of Edinburgh's vision for Equalities for Edinburgh's children and young people in schools, early years' centres and youth work provision and to ensure that we fulfil our obligation of equity and excellence for all learners, with particular reference to protected characteristics under the Equality Act 2010 and other factors.

The group has a wide representation, including partner agencies for all the relevant protected characteristics.

A number of workstreams have been set up, including: Anti-bullying; Inclusive Curriculum; Increasing Diversity in the Education and Youthwork Workforce; and Training.

More information to follow in future Equalities Newsletters. If you'd like to know more about any of the workstreams, please contact Annemarie Procter (annemarie.procter@ea.edin.sch.uk).

Events in February

1st-28th February LGBT History Month Celebrated in the UK every February, LGBT History Month focuses on the celebration and recognition of LGBT people and culture; past and present to give educators scope to talk about the bigger picture of LGBT experience, in which LGBT people were the agents of change rather than just victims of prejudice.

<https://lgbtplushistorymonth.co.uk/resources/lgbt-history-month/>

<https://www.theproudtrust.org/training-and-education/education-resources/lgbt-history-month/>

Inclusion Hub LGBT Folder: <https://cityofedinburgheducation.sharepoint.com/sites/365CentralResources/inclusionhub/wholeschool/equalities/SitePages/Home.aspx?RootFolder=%2Fsites%2F365CentralResources%2Finclusionhub%2Fwholeschool%2Fequalities%2FShared%20Documents%2FLGBT&FolderCTID=0x0120006CBB6759062DCC4B86B0CE63DB0DB676&View=%7BDAB7140B-53C5-4240-8A28-FB9646A9367B%7D>

TIE (Time for Inclusive Education) resources: <https://www.tiecampaing.co.uk/resources>
<https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5cc7195fceaeb60001c9dc58/t/5cefe3450b08f30001f4c0fd/1559225192901/Icons+Graphics+2019.pdf>
<https://www.gaystarnews.com/article/scottish-schools-celebrate-lgbti-history-month-with-tribute-to-queer-icons/>

1st February World Interfaith Harmony Day First week of February every year: Spreading harmony and tolerance among followers of the three monotheistic faiths and all the world's religions

<https://globaldimension.org.uk/resources/search/?>

[fwp_keyword=interfaith&fwp_sort=title_asc](https://globaldimension.org.uk/resources/search/?fwp_keyword=interfaith&fwp_sort=title_asc)

<https://globaldimension.org.uk/event/world-interfaith-harmony-week/2020-02-01/>

1st February World Hijab Day In recognition of millions of Muslim women who choose to wear the hijab. The idea is as a means to foster religious tolerance and understanding by inviting women (non-Hijabi Muslims/non-Muslims) to experience the hijab for one day. By opening up new pathways to understanding, it is hoped that some of the controversies surrounding why Muslim women choose to wear the hijab will be counteracted.

<https://worldhijabday.com/about-us/>

<https://www.pallisersd.ab.ca/about-us/news/post/world-hijab-day-a-learning-experience>

9th February Autism Sunday and Autism Awareness Week (30th March – 5th April)

<https://www.autism.org.uk/get-involved/world-autism-awareness-week/schools.aspx>

More events in February

12th February World Red Hand Day for Child Soldiers A worldwide initiative to stop the use of child soldiers <https://www.redhandday.org/index.php?id=4&L=0>

20th February World Day of Social Justice An international day to recognizing the need to promote social justice, which includes efforts to tackle issues such as poverty, exclusion, gender equality, unemployment, and human rights.

<https://equalityupdates.org.uk/event/world-day-of-social-justice/all-international-mother-language-day-2020-02-21/>

21st February International Mother Language Day Created by UNESCO to promote linguistic and cultural diversity and multilingualism <https://www.all-languages.org.uk/event/>

22nd February Turning The Tide Against Racism Conference Stand Up To Racism Scotland's 2020 Conference takes place in Glasgow City Centre on Saturday 22 February and will bring together anti-racists to discuss and organise. Register here: <https://bit.ly/2uzZeCP>

22nd February Purple Friday LGBT Youth Scotland On the last Friday of February, Purple Friday is celebrated - a day to stand against homophobia, biphobia and transphobia and show support for LGBTI equality. The day, first celebrated in Canada in 2010, is named after the purple stripe on the LGBT rainbow flag, representing "spirit"

<https://www.lgbtyouth.org.uk/get-involved/campaigns/purple-friday/>

Local Events in February

15th February Love Culture Hate Racism, 12-4.30pm

Augustine United Church, 41 George IV Bridge, Edinburgh EH1 1EL

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ti7IzvHxEofARAZ1fDaML2eeAaV_-ldj/view?usp=sharing

20 February CHANGING MINDS - ONE CONVERSATION AT A TIME

Equality and Rights Network (EaRN) event - visit link below to register

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/equality-and-rights-network-earn-8464171338>

Events in March

1st March Zero Discrimination Day Calls on countries to examine discriminatory provisions in their laws and policies and make positive changes to ensure equality, inclusion and protection. https://www.unaids.org/en/2019_ZDD_campaign

1st March International Wheelchair Day An annual day of events and activities which take place around the World when wheelchair users celebrate the positive impact a wheelchair has on their lives.

<http://disabilityactionalliance.org.uk/resources/disability-awareness-for-children/>

3rd March World Hearing Day Held on 3 March each year to raise awareness on how to prevent deafness and **hearing loss** and promote ear and hearing care across the world.

<https://www.ndcs.org.uk/documents-and-resources/>

8th March International Women's Day A global day celebrating the social, economic, cultural and political achievements of women throughout history.

<https://www.internationalwomensday.com/School-Resources>

9th March Commonwealth Day Celebrating Commonwealth links. An annual event in which the fifty-two member countries of the Commonwealth celebrate their links with one another.

<http://www.youngcommonwealth.org/commonwealth-day/>

<https://www.tes.com/teaching-resource/the-commonwealth-6402208>

9th March– Hindu and Sikh Spring festival of Holi

<https://www.tes.com/teaching-resource/hinduism-holi-festivals-6312474>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/class-clips-video/religious-studies-ks2-my-life-my-religion-hinduism-holi-spring-festival/zkkygwx>

More events in March

12th March International School Meals Day Celebrating food and promoting healthy eating at school

<http://internationalschoolmealsday.com/resources-links/>

<https://globaldimension.org.uk/event/international-school-meals-day/2019-03-14/>

21st March International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination Calling on the international community to redouble its efforts to eliminate all forms of racial discrimination.

https://globaldimension.org.uk/resources/search/?fwp_topic=racism

21st March World Down Syndrome Day

<https://www.downs-syndrome.org.uk/about/campaigns/world-downs-syndrome-day/>

Information

The National Open Youth Orchestra (NOYO) is a world first, an ambitious orchestra launched in September 2018 to give some of the UK's most talented young disabled musicians a progression route. It promotes musical excellence, empowering disabled and non-disabled musicians aged 11-25 to train and perform together as members of a pioneering ensemble. <https://noyo.org.uk/>

Sikh Sanjog Organisation that supports Sikh and other BME women and children of all ages with settling into Scottish society, careers and education advice, mental health support (including counselling) and a weekly drop in service. <http://www.sikhsanjog.com/>

Open Arms Project The Open Arms Programme is a collaborative project between ELREC, Sikh Sanjog, LINKnet, and Saheliya. It is designed to engage minority ethnic and migrant women in Edinburgh and the Lothians. Each collaborating organisation offers a variety of women-only services and activities. Please contact each organisation for details of what support they are offering.

Updates

Connect: Supporting Partnerships in Education

Connect ran a very quick Snap Survey on celebrations in schools, to find out what and how national and cultural festivals and days are celebrated in our school communities.

<https://connect.scot/news/connects-report-our-snap-survey-parents-about-celebrations-school-communities>

EIS Welcome packs for Young People Newly arrived in Scotland

The EIS has produced a suite of educational packs to welcome young people from migrant and refugee families into Scottish schools. The booklets included in the packs aim to give newly arrived young people and their families some information about school education in Scotland, as well as some background about Scotland itself by way of introduction to the country. All schools now have these but they are also available from the EIS website.

<https://www.eis.org.uk/Policy-And-Publications/WelcomeToScotland>

Improving the Lives of Scotland's Gypsy/Travellers 2019-21 Action Plan

The Scottish Government have consulted with many Gypsy/Travellers regarding their concerns about accommodation, education, health and access to services. This is with the knowledge that the community face many disadvantages and that action needs to be taken to make sure that Gypsy/Travellers are treated fairly,. The action plan describes some of the key activities that the Scottish Government aim to deliver during 2019-2021 to fulfil these commitments .

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/improving-lives-scotlands-gypsy-travellers-2019-2021/>

'Insight' report, published by Intercultural Youth Scotland

This report documents the findings of a survey looking at how BME young people receive and perceive secondary school education. Although the sample size was small, some issues were raised and these have been discussed by the Communities and Families Equalities Steering Group - more information about this group on page 2.

Sharing Good Practice and Resources

Inclusion calendar

Online calendar highlighting over 240 important dates for the year

https://www.cipd.co.uk/Images/inclusion-calendar-2020_tcm18-52311.pdf

ILR Service: new resources reflecting and including GRT learners

A series of stimulating, illustrated children's books, suitable for lower primary, reflecting Gypsy/Traveller culture. Titles include: 'Polonius the Pit Pony', 'The Lost Homework', 'Ossiri and the Bala Mengro', 'Yokki and the Parno Gry'. These books are written by Richard O'Neill, published by Child's Play (International).

Global Citizenship Calendar

Primary and secondary teachers in Scotland can now download a free digital pack designed to teach young people about the Sustainable Development Goals and to discover ways to address the issues in their own communities and further afield. The digital pack contains a PowerPoint, postcards and booklet to keep. Each postcard has an activity for introducing a goal and ideas for exploring it further in the classroom and the interactive PowerPoint is jam-packed with eye-catching, engaging and of-the-moment resources your learners will identify with and enjoy.

<http://scotdec.org.uk/resources/explore-the-global-goals-17-activities-for-primary-schools/>

<http://scotdec.org.uk/resources/explore-the-global-goals-17-activities-for-secondary-schools/>

LGBT Stonewall resources

Useful resources, whether you're just getting started on LGBT inclusion or developing your best practice even further. Tackling homophobic, biphobic and transphobic bullying can feel like big tasks, but these practical guides and toolkits break it down into manageable steps. The best practice guides can help to benchmark the work, and the posters and easy-read guides are good to use with students.

<https://www.stonewall.org.uk/best-practice-toolkits-and-resources-0>

Sharing Good Practice and Resources

'Traveller Times' Some accessible, practical tips for schools and case studies to support working with GRT children and families

<https://www.travellerstimes.org.uk/news/2019/05/gypsy-roma-and-traveller-education-celebrating-good-practice>

Romany Gypsy day at Hook PS In this new blog Dawn Walters, Year R Team Leader at Hook Infant School, shares the exciting activities she planned as part of a Romany Gypsy Day she organised for her class. Check out this photo album created in Book Creator:

<https://emtas.hias.hants.gov.uk/blog/index.php?entryid=47>

Literacy lesson plans based around GRT themed books Please see link below to a list of books and literacy hour lesson plans for lower primary from Norfolk Council. The GRT themed-linked lesson plan ideas are for lower primary.

[https://cityofedinburgheducation.sharepoint.com/sites/365CentralResources/inclusionhub/wholeschool/equalities/Shared%20Documents/Gypsy%20Roma%20Traveller/Norfolk%20literacy hour%20GRT%20themed%20-%20linked%20books.pdf](https://cityofedinburgheducation.sharepoint.com/sites/365CentralResources/inclusionhub/wholeschool/equalities/Shared%20Documents/Gypsy%20Roma%20Traveller/Norfolk%20literacy%20hour%20GRT%20themed%20-%20linked%20books.pdf)

New MCFB Multicultural Cookbook A group of mums from the BME community recently produced a new cookbook—available through MCFB website.

<https://www.mcfb.org.uk/news>