



Helping **all** children to grow and flourish



Cross-Partnership British Values & Diversity Approach

2022-23

"Every school should promote the basic British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and the mutual respect and tolerance for those of different faiths and beliefs. Children become valuable and fully rounded members of society who treat others with respect and tolerance, regardless of their background." – Ofsted

Dear all,

Our celebration calendar ensures that, across our partnership, we are giving all children the opportunity to explore different issues and celebrate similarities and differences. Much more importantly though, it contributes to creating an atmosphere where all of our pupils and staff can feel welcomed, included and supported. This calendar is by no means a definitive list and if your school community provides opportunities to celebrate other aspects of our society, that is to be encouraged.

The dates below ensure coverage of multiple areas covering religion (religious events from Britain's 3 largest religions: Christianity, Hinduism and Islam are included), the environment, gender, sexuality, disability, poverty and more.

Children should go home from school knowing that a particular special date has taken place - and celebrations should be shared via the school's social media and website - but these dates can be celebrated through explicit activities linked to the specific day or bled into the day's learning through cross-curricular links like reading comprehensions, writing, art, PSHE etc.

You will find a number of dates have been highlighted **yellow**. These are specific dates that will be celebrated annually, across the partnership and throughout the age groups. It is strongly suggested that activities are agreed for these in advance at a staff meeting to ensure a joined-up approach from the school, which could also link to progressive cross-curricular links. The other activities can be celebrated within each school as-and-when it's appropriate (i.e. different classes celebrating different events, a two-year rolling programme etc.)

I believe, by following the calendar, we can ensure that the Orchard Partnership is a leading group of schools for the promotion of equality and inclusion.

Kind regards,

Nick Locke

Key Dates for 2021/22

September:

International Day for Eradication of Poverty
(To be combined with **Harvest**)

Monday 17th October 2022

October:

British Black History Month

1st-31st October 2022

Diwali

Monday 24th October 2022

November:

Remembrance Day

Friday 11th November 2022

Anti-Bullying Week

14th-18th November 2022

International Men's Day

Saturday 19th November 2022

Children's Day

Sunday 20th November 2022

December:

Disability Day

Saturday 3rd December 2022

Christmas

Sunday 25th December 2022

January:

Chinese New Year

Sunday 22nd January 2023

International Holocaust Remembrance Day

Friday 27th January 2023

February:

Children's Mental Health Week

6th – 12th February 2023

Safer Internet Day

Tuesday 7th February 2023

Fairtrade Fortnight

20th February - 5th March 2023

March:

International Women's Day

Wednesday 8th March 2023

World Book Day

Thursday 2nd March 2023

Neurodiversity Celebration Week

13th-19th March 2023

World Maths Day

Thursday 23rd March 2023

April:

Easter Sunday

Sunday 9th April 2023

End of Ramadan

Friday 21st April 2023

Earth Day

Saturday 22nd April 2023

St. George's Day

Sunday 23rd April 2023

May:

June:

UK Pride Month

1st-30th June 2023

Refugee Day

Tuesday 20th June 2023

Orchard Partnership Diversity Week

19th-23th June 2023

**EVENTS SHOULD BE CELEBRATED ON THEIR DATE
OR BEFORE, IF IT FALLS ON A WEEKEND OR IN
SCHOOL HOLIDAYS.**

**CELEBRATIONS AFTER THE EVENT
SHOULD BE AVOIDED.**

British Black History Month

“When I grew up I knew nothing about my black history – especially people who’d done amazing things in this country. I only ever knew about black history within America, which was great but I’m not American so I couldn’t really relate. Not knowing that black people helped win the war, not knowing how black people contributed to anything in Britain, I felt a little alienated. Not knowing anything about black British history made me feel that I had lost a part of my identity and that I wasn’t a part of the history within my own country.”

The quote is from a black Herefordian I spoke to, researching how best to approach Black History Month. I think it shows just how important it is to focus on telling black *British* history. There is a lot of it, including: Windrush, Bristol Bus Boycott, Notting Hill carnival, the British West Indies Regiment in WWI etc. There may not be cookie-cutter Twinkl resources out there for these events like there are for Martin Luther King and Rosa Parks etc. (Whose work still needs a mention but not sole focus) but that is also another reason why we should teach the children about them – so they aren’t forgotten.

Orchard Partnership Diversity Week

This is a week to whole-school celebrate many aspects of our society and afternoons across the week are to be put aside to celebrate. The timing of this week isn’t a coincidence and it is important that aspects of Refugee Day and LGBTQ+ Pride are incorporated into this week. Activities are encouraged to be wide-ranging and cross-curricular with some ‘Wow!’ events included too.

Suggestions include: writing a biography about prominent LGBTQ+ celebrities, a food festival celebrating pupils heritage (national or international), a Q&A with someone from a minority group, letter writing to welcome refugees arriving in England, visiting a non-Christian religious building, a languages afternoon learning key phrases from a minority language like Polish, Romanian, Kurdish, experiencing-a-disability activity (perhaps in co-ordination with support from the RNIB) etc.

Website & Social Media

When celebrating these events it is also important to ensure that our celebrations are put out there to the public and recorded. Each school’s website should have a dedicated British Values & Diversity page where photos and short write-ups are included from each event throughout the school year. Photos should also be shared on social media including copying in/@-ing relevant organisations or using relevant hashtags to increase visibility.

Week/Month Long Events

These events do not need to be celebrated for the *entirety* of the period. However, multiple events can take place over the dates. For example, during Black History Month 2021 at Burghill Community Academy, each class had two separate lessons throughout the month; one focussing on a moment from black history (i.e Windrush, Bristol Bus Boycott, Notting Hill etc.) and one focussing on a black history-maker (A black person who has achieved something fantastic but not related to their skin colour. For example, Marcus Rashford’s poverty work, Matthew Henson’s Antarctic explorations etc.).

Additionally, the children of KS2 listened to music by a different black artist each morning when they came into class and books featuring black main characters or written by black authors were placed on display in the library – small but effective things.