

# Equality and Diversity Update

Issue 29: April 2017

## Vaisakhi Day 2017

This is one of the most important dates in the Sikh calendar as it is a New Year festival when these communities, around the world, mark Vaisakhi with processions and parades to commemorate an important act that established their religion.

It also commemorates 1699, the year Sikhism was born as a collective faith.

There will be a display in the Sanctuary in the week of 10 April 2017 to mark this.

To celebrate Sikhs will visit the Gurdwara, their place of worship, which will be decorated and there are parades, dancing and singing which happen throughout the day.

The Sikh belief is that religion should be practised by living in the world and coping with life's everyday problems.

There are specific symbols of Sikhism known as the 5 K's:

- Kesh (uncut hair)
- Kara (a steel bracelet)
- Kanga (a wooden comb)
- Kaccha - also spelt, Kachh, Kachera (cotton underwear)
- Kirpan (steel sword)

Less than 1% of staff say they are Sikh so do ask your manager how you can add religious belief to your personnel profile.

There are 20 million Sikhs in the world, most of whom live in the Punjab province of India. The 2011 census recorded 432,429 Sikhs in the UK.

### Events

Easter Celebration – Chaplaincy  
Vaisakhi Day – Display Chaplaincy



**The Golden Temple Amritsar India (Sri Harimandir Sahib Amritsar) is not only a central religious place of the Sikhs, but also a symbol of human brotherhood and equality.**

## Dramatic Reading Of The Easter Story

The chaplaincy team will be hosting a dramatic reading of the Easter story, to take place within the hospital building, on Tuesday, 11 April at 12 noon.

There will be a rehearsal on:

**Tuesday 4 April 12 – 2pm**

Run-through on Tuesday 11 April at 10 a.m. prior to the event itself at 12noon.

To express interest, sign up or find out more, please contact:

Julie Nicholson Team chaplain

Email: [Julie.Nicholson@nbt.nhs.uk](mailto:Julie.Nicholson@nbt.nhs.uk)

-	11 April 2017	12 noon
-	10 April 2017	All Day

**Harassment and Bullying Advice Line  
New Number 0117 414 5599, Ext: 45599**



**Workplace wellbeing:**

There are a host of activities and initiatives at NBT to improve staff health and wellbeing and we want to know your views on what's available and whether there is more we can do.

Please complete the survey below as soon as possible so we can gauge how useful these are. Please go to the link below for the survey which is quick to complete and is totally confidential. You will not be identified.

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/LQFRSPC>

**Do you need to contact patients who are Deaf or hard of hearing?**

The Next Generation Text (NGT) Service can help. By using a smartphone, tablet, or computer and making a phone call you can type to our relay assistant who will speak your words to the person you're calling, and the relay assistant will type their reply so you can read it on your display.

See the Next Generation Text website for more information at:

<http://ngts.org.uk/textrelay.php?bookmark=works>

**Equality Calendar**

<b>World Autism Awareness Day</b>	<b>: 2 April 2017</b>
<b>Pesach (Passover) (Jewish)</b>	<b>: 11 April 2017</b>
<b>Good Friday (Christian)</b>	<b>: 14 April 2017</b>
<b>Vaisakhi (Sikh)</b>	<b>: 14 April 2017</b>
<b>St George's Day (Christian)</b>	<b>: 23 April 2017</b>
<b>World Day for Health &amp; Safety at Work</b>	<b>: 28 April 2017</b>

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

This is an annual international campaign to promote safe, healthy and decent work. It is held on 28 April and has been observed by the International Labour Organisation (ILO) since 2003. 28 April has also long been associated with the world's trade union movement's commemoration of the victims of occupational accidents and diseases.

The 2017 day focuses on the critical need for countries to improve their capacity to collect and utilize reliable Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) data.

This is where we can all play our part by providing the information we are asked for and to ensure that the data is of good quality. This will have an impact as the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development encompasses a global plan of action with specific targets to end poverty, protect the planet, and ensure prosperity for all. The capacity to collect and utilize reliable OSH data has also become indispensable for countries to fulfil their commitment to implement and report on some of the agenda's 17 sustainable development goals and their targets.



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