

# **Courageous Conversations: Race & Rights (2026)**

**A year-long national programme from Equality & Diversity UK**

**Anti-racism is a commitment, not a moment.**

In 2026, EDUK is delivering Courageous Conversations: Race & Rights — a national programme of monthly online events exploring Black heritage, identity and racial justice. Co-designed with young people, the series builds confidence and skills to challenge racism, promote inclusion and advance equality.

Each month we will connect to a key moment in Black British history — from Stephen Lawrence Day to Windrush Day and open a space where we learn, reflect and take action together.

The programme will conclude with **Black Futures: Leading the Change**, a major in-person conference in Manchester in late October 2026 — showcasing youth leadership, creative performance, employer pledges and community excellence.

**Join us in building a future where race equality thrives.**

- Launching January 2026
- Monthly Online Meeting | Tuesdays | 18:00 – 19:30
- Speakers include educators, youth advocates and leaders
- Co-produced with ethnically diverse young people

**Interested in partnering or attending?**

Contact: [info@equalityanddiversity.co.uk](mailto:info@equalityanddiversity.co.uk)

## 2026 Calendar

| Month | Date                           | Event Title                                              | Theme                             |
|-------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Jan   | 19 Jan<br>(MLK Day)            | Everyday Anti-Racism<br>in UK Workplaces                 | Challenging<br>microaggressions   |
| Feb   | LGBT+ History<br>Month         | Black & Queer in Britain                                 | Intersectionality                 |
| Mar   | 21 Mar<br>(UN Day)             | Calling Out Polite Racism                                | Language, behaviour &<br>bias     |
| Apr   | 22 Apr                         | Stephen Lawrence Day:<br>Justice & Hope                  | Safety, accountability            |
| May   | 25 May                         | Africa Day:<br>Culture & Innovation                      | Pride and identity                |
| Jun   | 22 Jun                         | Windrush @ 78:<br>Rights & Respect                       | Restoring trust                   |
| Jul   | 18 Jul                         | Allies in Action                                         | Visible anti-racist<br>leadership |
| Aug   | 1 Aug                          | Freedom to Thrive                                        | Power, equity & justice           |
| Sep   | 31 Aug                         | Representation in Education                              | Belonging &<br>opportunities      |
| Oct   | <b>Black History<br/>Month</b> | <b>Conference: Black Futures:<br/>Leading the Change</b> | Collective action                 |
| Nov   | 19 Nov                         | Black Men & Mental Health                                | Breaking stigma                   |
| Dec   | 10 Dec                         | Racism = Human Rights Issue                              | Solidarity & global<br>justice    |

### Manchester Conference: Black Futures: Leading the Change

Taking place in late October 2026, a national celebration of Black heritage, youth leadership and anti-racism in action.

Workshops • Performances • Employer Action Pledges • Marketplace