

Zero Discrimination Day

Zero Discrimination Day is marked on the March 1 every year by the UN and other international organisations. Its purpose is to provide a call to action for ending discrimination of all types, and to advance social inclusion and tolerance. Zero Discrimination Day was created by UNAIDS Director Michel Sidibé, and campaigns each year have celebrated the right to live freely regardless of gender, race, religion, colour, nationality, disability, or profession.

Outside of Girlguiding, girls can be limited by gender stereotypes and face other challenges, however Girlguiding aims to be a place where everyone is welcome, is free to be themselves and has an equal sense of belonging, regardless of who they are or where they are from.

There are many activities within the Girlguiding programme that focus on inclusion and diversity, and these could be used in unit meetings to explore key themes around Zero Discrimination Day.

Unit Meeting Activities

Rainbows

Fuzzy Feelings - exploring empathy through listening to a story, and learning how to notice if someone is being left out of their games.

Brownies

Brownie Town - designing a new town in their Sixes, and thinking about how they would make their new town welcoming to any Brownie in the world.

Guides

My Support Chain - focusing on ways to challenge discrimination in safe places like their unit and school, and creating a support chain to think about how their actions can make change.

Rangers

Allies Unite - learning about small acts of everyday inclusion, as well as wider campaigns, and writing an “allyship manifesto” that they can show a commitment to.

Other UMAs exploring similar themes can be found by searching “Better Together” on the Girlguiding Shop!

Skills Builder

Reflect

The Reflect Skills Builder (all stages) offers a chance for girls to think about their own beliefs and values, and their place within their local community.

Interest Badges

Brownies - Speaking Out

Guides - Human Rights

Rangers - Morals and Values

Girlguiding also offers training and reflection for volunteers which can either be used to help leaders to consider inclusion within their unit, or as a starting point to talk to girls about what inclusion means to them. The “Including All” training focuses on ways to make unit meetings more inclusive, as well as helping volunteers understand how to recognise and report discrimination.

Girlguiding North West England has a inclusion section on there website which includes information and resources - <https://www.girlguidingnwe.org.uk/leader-resources/inclusion/>

You can find out more about Girlguiding’s equity, diversity and inclusion through the following links, including what they are doing to continually improve in these areas, and what can be done in units and by volunteers to make Girlguiding a place for all.

<https://www.girlguiding.org.uk/about-us/diversity-and-inclusion/>

<https://www.girlguiding.org.uk/about-us/diversity-and-inclusion/our-diversity-and-inclusion-journey/>

<https://www.girlguiding.org.uk/about-us/diversity-and-inclusion/what-were-going-to-do/>

<https://www.girlguiding.org.uk/about-us/diversity-and-inclusion/diversity-and-inclusion-resources/>