



*"Celebrate the diverse multicultural  
and multilingual community of  
the Northern Territory"*

# HARMONY WEEK 2021

Monday 15 – Sunday 21 March

*The Department of Education acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of country throughout Australia and their connections to land, sea and community. We pay our respect to their elders past and present and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples today.*

EDUCATION   
ENGAGE GROW ACHIEVE



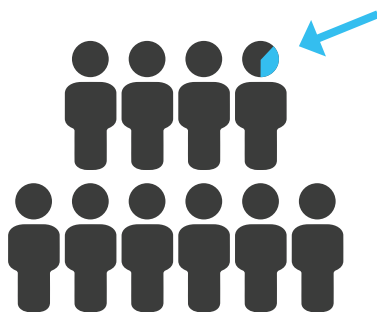
# About Harmony Week

Harmony Week is an annual week or time to celebrate multiculturalism and diversity, and share the message that everyone belongs in our communities. Harmony Week is about inclusiveness, respect and belonging for all Australians, regardless of cultural or linguistic backgrounds, united by a set of core values. Harmony Week includes 21 March, which is the United National International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. Harmony Week events are held in childcare centres, schools, community groups, churches, businesses and federal, state and local government agencies across Australia.

"The population of the whole Northern Territory is just over **245,000!**"



## Did you know?



The NT accounts for  
**approximately 1%**  
of the Australian population ...



... but there are  
**120 nationalities**  
across NT schools

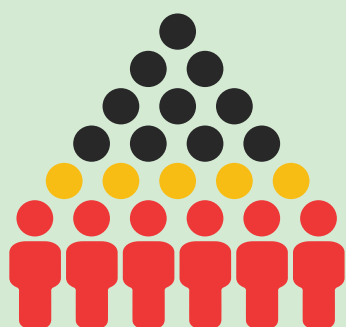
# Getting involved

Everyone can get involved in Harmony Week – students, staff, schools, offices, organisations and colleagues. This guide provides ideas for celebrations or how to get started.

Take part in Harmony week to appreciate and experience the Territory's rich cultural and diverse community, while breaking down barriers that still exist in our communities and across Australia and the world.

The Australian Government Department of Home Affairs have a range of free resources to assist and enable all Australians to get involved in Harmony Week. In addition to an [event planning kit](#) and [online promotion kit](#), they have resources ranging from posters, invitations, web banners and more which you can [read more about here](#).

## Did you know?



Our student population includes  
**over 14,000**  
Aboriginal students

"Of all NT students,  
**42%** have a language  
background other than  
English"



Aboriginal people represent  
**over 30%**  
of the NTs population

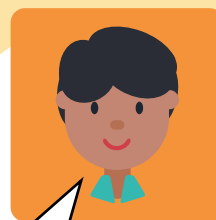
# Ideas for **staff** and **students**



- [Register your event here](#). You can list your event as public or private. Registering your event will entitle you to a free package of Harmony Week promotional products
- [A taste of harmony](#) – get together with your class, team or workplace and encourage everyone to bring a dish that reflects their cultural origin. Share stories and insight into dishes and learn from each other
- Country cook-off – get together with your class, team or workplace and each bring a local dish from a different country. Experience different foods and share stories about each dish and/or country



- Delve into the diversity of Australia's population. You can start [here](#)
- Share your favourite recipe from your cultural origin, or just your favourite recipe with organisations, teams, friends and families to create a shared recipe book. Nominate a point of contact to receive all recipes and provide the option to share images, information and contact details for each dish
- Wear orange. Orange is the chosen colour to represent Harmony Week. Traditionally, orange signifies social communication and meaningful conversations



- Get together with your class, team or workplace and share photographs of your family members. Share something about yourself and your family and/or where you came from
- Put up a map of the world or Australia; in classes, teams or workplaces, have each member mark the country or town of which they were born or have a connection with
- Connect with local cultures – look into and learn more about the country and traditional owners of the land you're working or going to school on
- Have conversations about the difference between feeling included and not included, and how that feels.



## Ideas for schools

- Schools can utilise their newsletters, noticeboards and social media accounts to spread the word about their Harmony Week events.
- Hold an international dress-up day or traditional fashion parade – students, staff and families wear outfits representing their cultural background. Hold an assembly to celebrate and enjoy the various costumes
- Harmony Week competitions. These could range from; posters or designs, reading, dress-ups, dancing or cooking competitions to engage students and staff
- Set up reading displays in classrooms or libraries with multicultural books. Encourage students, staff and parents to read different books about different cultures
- Challenge students and staff to learn something new about the cultural diversity of their classmates and colleagues
- Multicultural cooking classes or multicultural food available through school canteens
- Multicultural class quizzes
- Invite local Aboriginal elders or traditional owners to visit your school and speak about their culture and history. They can also be invited to cook a traditional dish to share with students and staff.



## Ideas for teams and offices

- Promote and attend cross-cultural training sessions. [Cross Cultural Training](#) for NT Government employees is provided through [Cross Cultural Consultants](#) who you can book trainings with directly. There are also a number of online modules that staff can access and complete:
  - [Working with cultural difference](#)
  - [Aboriginal history](#)
  - [Workplace bullying](#)
- Hold lunch sessions and encourage staff to bring plates of food, try other traditional food, meet other staff members and share their culture
- Profiling staff members which could include information about:
  - Their culture, religion or country of origin
  - What brought them to Australia/the NT/the Department of Education
  - History, images or videos that mean a lot to them

## Get in touch!

Let us know what you've got planned for Harmony Week 2021!

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Need more information or have any questions?

Visit [harmony.gov.au](http://harmony.gov.au) or email

[harmonyweek@homeaffairs.gov.au](mailto:harmonyweek@homeaffairs.gov.au)

