

National Inclusion Week 2026

Build Trust. Navigate Change.

Inspiring Stories guide



Inspiring Stories

Build Trust. Make Change. National Inclusion Week 2026

What is 'Inspiring Stories'?

Inspiring Stories brings inclusion to life through powerful, human storytelling. Each session features an inspirational speaker delivering a compelling TED-style talk, sharing personal insight, lived experience and practical lessons that help audiences connect emotionally with the themes of trust, belonging and change.

The talk is followed by a facilitated fireside chat, creating space to explore the key learning points and translate the story into meaningful action for colleagues, managers and organisations. Designed to be engaging, thought-provoking and easy to embed into National Inclusion Week activity. Each session lasts up to 60 minutes and offers a high-impact way to spark conversation, build trust and inspire change.

Each talk includes the speaker's reflections on:

- Overcoming challenges
- Trust, safety and belonging
- Change and how to navigate it
- The practical learning takeaways

What impact does it have?

Stories make inclusion feel real.

They help people move beyond policies and concepts to understand what inclusion, exclusion, trust and belonging feel like in everyday working life.

Research shows that storytelling can build empathy, shift perspectives and support behaviour change. When people hear honest stories, they are more likely to reflect, talk openly, build trust and take practical steps to make change happen.

By combining lived experience and practical reflection, each session creates the kind of shared understanding that policies and communications alone rarely achieve.

For organisations, the impact is both cultural and practical: stronger engagement, more open conversation, greater confidence to act and a meaningful focal point for National Inclusion Week activity. The result is a high-impact, low-effort experience that helps bring inclusion priorities to life and leaves people with clear, human reasons to make change happen.

Meet our Storytellers



Abigail Iyaho

Abigail leads Equity, Diversity, Inclusion (EDI), and People Development initiatives across diverse sectors.

Abigail's story explores the gap between inclusion as an intention and inclusion as everyday practice, drawing on her work across sectors and communities. Listeners will learn how honest challenge, lived experience and evidence of impact can help colleagues, managers and organisations build belonging one decision at a time.

Story themes:

- Inclusion and Belonging
- The conditions for thriving

Format: Virtual



Anisha Doshi

Anisha works across consultancy, communications, strategy and partnerships, helping organisations translate data insights into practical action that drives equity, diversity and inclusion.

Anisha's stories explore the everyday behaviours that shape inclusive cultures, from recognising bias in line management to building connection and community in underrepresented spaces. Listeners will learn how honest reflection, peer challenge, mentoring and intentional networking can help managers build trust, make better decisions and create the conditions for people to thrive.

Story themes:

- Inclusive people management
- Race and ethnicity

Format: Virtual | In person events possible – ask us for location details.



Garry Clarke-Strange

Garry's mission is to help organisations create an environment where their people are supported, can be their true selves and belong.

His story explores identity, LGBTQ+ inclusion, mental health and the experience of navigating work while balancing authenticity with self-protection. Listeners will learn how psychological safety, everyday behaviours and inclusive leadership can help people feel safe enough to be themselves and contribute fully.

Story themes:

- Identity
- LGBTQ+ inclusion
- Mental Health

Format: Virtual | in person events possible – ask us for location details.



Jill Manfrinato

Drawing on her experience as the only woman in a specialist, male-dominated policing unit, Jill works with organisation to explore exclusion is not only sustained by overt behaviour, but also by unconscious acceptance, cultural conditioning, and organisational silence.

Her stories talk about themes of social mobility, gender and workplace inclusion.

Story themes:

- Socio-mobility
- Gender
- Workplace inclusion practises

Format: Virtual | In person events possible – ask us for location details.



Kai-Nneka Townsend

Kai-Nneka specialises in leadership development and workplace culture.

Kai-Nneka's story explores silence, burnout and identity at work, showing how psychological safety, active listening and meaningful action can help people feel heard, supported and able to thrive.

Story themes:

- Burnout
- Psychological safety
- Leadership

Format: Virtual | In person events possible – ask us for location details.



Kasia Zduniak

Kasia helps organisations understand that menopause is not simply a women's issue. It is a leadership issue, a retention issue, a gender pay gap issue and ultimately a business issue.

Her story explores the hidden cost of masking, the impact of menopause on experienced women at work, and how organisations can create cultures where people no longer need to hide parts of themselves to succeed.

Story themes:

- Menopause
- Neurodiversity
- Gender

Format: Virtual | In person events possible – ask us for location details.



Katie Allen

Katie is an experienced leader, coach and leadership consultant.

Her story follows her leadership journey from working in oil refineries to recognising how fear of saying the wrong thing can stop even well-intentioned leaders from having important inclusion conversations. Listeners will learn how self-awareness, curiosity and humility can help them navigate difficult conversations with confidence.

Story themes:

- Leadership
- Gender
- Allyship

Format: Virtual | In person events possible – ask us for location details.



Meike Imberg

Meike challenges organisations to think differently about how they define talent, potential, and “fit”.

Her stories explore the link between neurodiversity, autonomy, performance and leadership - and how this applies to workplaces. Her core message is: how much brilliance are we overlooking because we expect people to work in one particular way?

Story themes:

- Neurodiversity
- Performance
- Leadership

Format: Virtual | In person events possible – ask us for location details.



Oliver Fenghour

Oliver is a neurodiversity trainer, and consultant.

Oliver's story explores growing up and working as a neurodivergent person in a world designed for neurotypical people. He shares how supportive environments, understanding, and strengths-based inclusion can help neurodivergent individuals thrive in education, work and beyond.

Story themes:

- Neurodiversity
- Mental health

Format: Virtual | In person events possible – ask us for location details.



Rosie Clarke

Rosie has over a decade of experience leading and delivering sustainable, organisationally sensitive and data-driven inclusion and diversity strategies to enable lasting impact. She is passionate about removing barriers to participation in work and society, and as a neurodivergent thinker, has personally seen the transformative effect of inclusion.

Her stories explore her journey understanding her neurodivergence and learning to unmask after 20 years of masking. She also explores supporting parents at work including a particular focus on journeys to parenthood, maternal mental health and baby loss.

Story themes:

- Neurodiversity
- Parenthood, maternal mental health and baby loss

Format: Virtual | In person events possible – ask us for location details.



Shanara Hibbert

Shanara Hibbert is an Executive Coach, Facilitator, Wellbeing and Equity professional and four-time National Triple Jump medallist.

Shanara's story follows her journey from elite sport to recovery after a life-changing injury, exploring the challenges of returning to work and how inclusive support, communication and allyship can make a meaningful difference.

Story themes:

- Disability
- Carers

Format: Virtual | In person events possible – ask us for location details.

Why invest?

Inspiring Stories is more than a speaker session: it is a high-impact inclusion experience that is simple to deliver and easy for employees to connect with.

Each package combines preparation, powerful storytelling and facilitated reflection, helping you create a memorable National Inclusion Week moment that sparks conversation, builds trust and supports meaningful action, without adding complexity for internal teams.

For organisations, this creates a visible and credible focal point for inclusion activity, supporting engagement, conversation and behaviour change in a format that is flexible, accessible and designed to fit around existing National Inclusion Week plans.

Pricing

Package	Details	Price
Virtual speaker	½ hour pre-event meet and greet to agree event logistics and fireside-chat questions. 15-minute pre-event tech check 1 hour event (15-20 minutes talk followed by a fireside-chat)	£1,200 +VAT
In person speaker	As above	Price on request

Ready to bring Inspiring Stories to your organisation?

Choose the storyteller and theme that best aligns with your National Inclusion Week priorities, and create a memorable moment that helps people connect, reflect and take meaningful action.

To discuss availability, speaker fit and the best format for your organisation, speak to your Relationship Manager or Inclusive Employers contact and we'll help you shape an Inspiring Stories session that works for your audience.