



MCB MUSLIM COUNCIL
OF BRITAIN

VMM

Information Sheet

About visit my Mosque (VMM)

Visit My Mosque is a national initiative facilitated by the Muslim Council of Britain, encouraging mosques across the UK to hold open days to welcome in their neighbours from all faiths and none. VMM helps bring communities together by dispelling myths around Islam, an insight into the lives of Muslims and a peek into the Mosque and its activities.

Whilst mosque open days in Britain have been taking place for decades, Visit My Mosque enables mosques to be a part of a coordinated nationwide celebration of community, which has become a permanent fixture in the national events calendar.

When did it start?

Many mosques in the UK have been holding open days for their local communities for decades.

As a national initiative, #VisitMyMosque was conceived in February 2015 with about 20 mosques taking part in holding an open day on the same day. Due to popular demand, the initiative has grown to over 250 mosques now taking part, with leading dignitaries from all walks of life taking part, including MPs, Mayors, and even the Leader of the Opposition and the Prime Minister too!

Does it only happen once a year?

No! – Many mosques organise open days regularly throughout the year and events where people of other faiths and none are welcome to attend. However, Visit My Mosque Day is a national day where mosques across the UK coordinate their open days for the same days of the year.



Who runs Visit My Mosque?

Visit My Mosque is organised by hundreds of volunteers across the UK who have taken time out to open up their local mosque, send invitations to their neighbours, and be available on the day to meet & greet neighbours and answer their questions. At a national level, Visit My Mosque day is facilitated by the Muslim Council of Britain which have a steering committee to coordinate events, and media coverage and raise awareness.

What can I expect when I visit my local mosque?

A warm welcome! Each mosque will have different activities planned. Most will have guided tours of the building, exhibitions and poster displays about Islam and refreshments. Some will have talks or play videos, kids activities and if you time your visit right; the chance to watch congregational prayer.

“It gives a great opportunity for our neighbours to visit a mosque local to them”
Madni Masjid, Bradford

Do Mosques have a dress code?

Mosques are sacred spaces and places of worship. Whilst there isn't a formal dress code, we would ask visitors to respect the sanctity of the Mosque and dress modestly. Check with your local Mosque before visiting.

Why hold a VMM event?

In 2018 a YouGov poll found that 70% of Britons had never visited a place of worship other than their own- In such an interconnected and diverse society, and amid rising hate crime, it is important to build mutual understanding between communities and people of different backgrounds.

Using Visit My Mosque as a springboard, we hope to promote better outreach and engagement work between mosques and their diverse local communities across Britain throughout the year.



Resources and training

How to Run a Mosque Open Day” training workshops are held in cities across the UK. The workshops build on the suite of free templates, checklists and other resources that mosque open day organisers can download online from:

<https://visitmymosque.org/mosque-resources/>

The workshops also allow mosque leaders and volunteers in the same city or region to meet face-to-face and exchange ideas and best practices.

Resources can be downloaded on the following link:

<https://visitmymosque.org/mosque-resources/>

