

DIVERSITY

Defined.



for Identity

Creating an environment where difference is celebrated

All children and young people deserve an education that supports them to thrive – and part of this is feeling safe and included at school or college.

“ Children and young people can do their best learning when they know that they’re recognised and celebrated as their full, unique selves. ”

For example, children and young people who are LGBTQ+ (lesbian, gay, bi, trans, queer, questioning or ace), or who have LGBTQ+ family and loved ones, are more likely to engage with their lessons if they can see their identities reflected in the teaching they receive – yet Stonewall’s research shows that 40% of LGBT pupils are never taught anything about LGBTQ+ issues at school. What’s more, including and celebrating LGBTQ+ identities help keep children and young people safe. LGBTQ+ young people experience particularly high rates of poor mental health and although being LGBTQ+ is not a mental health condition, experiencing homophobic, biphobic or transphobic (HBT) bullying can put pressure on a young person’s mental health and emotional wellbeing.



Stonewall

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Stonewall's research shows that 45% of LGBT pupils have experienced HBT bullying at school, and only a third of pupils say teachers who witness this type of bullying intervene – yet we know that in schools that say HBT bullying is wrong, and take active steps to challenge this type of bullying, pupils are much more likely to report feeling happy and safe.



want the curriculum to **develop kindness, tolerance of diverse opinions and social and cultural awareness** as they think these characteristics will enable their learners to thrive in life in today's world*

*Pearson School Report - April 2022.

The most inclusive schools commit to representing different LGBTQ+ identities across the curriculum. They build effective whole-school approaches to tackling bullying and celebrating difference. LGBTQ+ children and young people see themselves and their loved ones reflected in the teaching they receive and know that their teachers will respond to bullying effectively.

What's more, students and staff alike are recognized and affirmed as whole people, with many different aspects that make up their unique identities. A range of LGBTQ+ role models and experiences are celebrated, including LGBTQ+ people of colour, disabled LGBTQ+ people and LGBTQ+ people of faith. In schools like these, all children and young people benefit, including those who aren't LGBTQ+ - in an environment where difference is celebrated, every child and young person is free to be their unique self and express their identity, whatever that means for them.

Get involved by sharing your thoughts on what diversity in education means to you.

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#DiversityDefined