

LGBTQ+ Practical Teaching Tips

The LGBTQ+ topic has been in the press and it has angered religious and conservative groups, which have demanded the right to opt their children out of lessons.

This is part of the relationships education and they do not have the right to withdraw.

LGBTQ+ should be integral in all teaching and discussions relating to relationships and family and not delivered as a stand-alone unit or session.

Stonewall have a [new guide for primary schools](#) on how to deliver an LGBT- inclusive curriculum, with lessons plans and ideas for all subjects. Their website has an excellent page answering many questions such as: **How can faith schools embed this new guidance?**

Relationship, Sex and Health Education

- Talk about homophobic, biphobic and transphobic bullying alongside other forms of bullying and prejudice
- Talk about different relationships and family structures such as same-sex marriages, adoption and fostering and single-parent families
- Ensure pupils learn about diverse role models, including people of different sexual orientations and genders
- Don't assume what the sexual orientation or gender identity is or will be of pupils in the class. For example, don't assume the gender identity of characters in a book or that everyone in the class has a mum and a dad

Same-sex relationships should be included within lessons discussing healthy and stable relationships

- Explain that everyone has a sexual orientation and gender identity in an age-appropriate way (you may find the child-friendly explanations on page 4 useful)
- Include LGBT people in examples
- Encourage all pupils to feel positive about themselves and their bodies
- Challenge gender stereotypes, e.g. use examples of people who don't follow traditional gender roles in relationships

Wider curriculum

- Ensure there is a diverse representation of people, including LGBT people, in lesson topics, examples, case studies and books (use Stonewall's primary book list www.stonewall.org.uk/primarybooks)
- Try to avoid making distinctions between boys and girls. For example, don't separate boys and girls for activities or use language such as 'boys and girls'
- Point out and challenge gender stereotypes in conversations with pupils
- Use existing resources (including Stonewall's FREE DVD, lesson plans and guides) in schemes of work to ensure that pupils know the importance of being yourself

Schools should 'be alive to issues such as everyday sexism, misogyny, homophobia and gender stereotypes' and take positive action to build a culture where these are not tolerated