

Dykehead Primary

Anti-Bullying and Inclusion

"Diversity, Positivity, Strength"



Dear Parents and Carers,



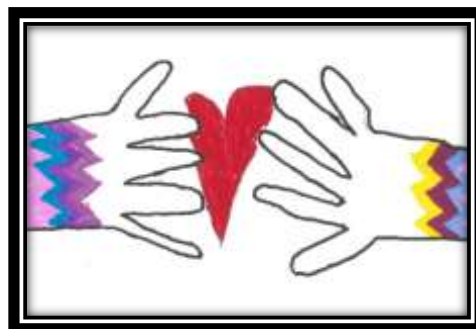
We have recently been approached by parents seeking advice on how best to discuss gender issues with their child, in a supportive and inclusive way.

Support and advice can be found at www.lgbtyouth.org.uk



The guidance overleaf is taken from www.rshp.scot on talking to children about gender, which you may find helpful. This content reflects the Curriculum for Excellence, and current advice on good practice.

As a school we have an anti-bullying and inclusion policy, which supports and guides all our pupils in their relationships with others, and in understanding prejudice. Full details can be found on our school website.



"As an inclusive school, we aim to be kind and respectful to each other in our actions and in our words. We actively seek to include everyone in our school community, regardless of their age, disability, gender, race, religion, sexual orientation or gender identity. We celebrate our diversity and recognise the contribution we all make towards ensuring our school a place where everyone can succeed."

Inclusion statement by the pupils and staff of DPS, December 2018

Parent Information & Support

Younger Children

Your gender is what your parents are told you are by a doctor when you are born; most people are told they are a male child (a boy) or a female child (a girl). People might think they know your gender because of the clothes you wear, or how you behave, or the things you like to do. In Scotland, we say that your gender should not matter, we are equal. We can do and like the same things. But sometimes people will tell you “Oh a boy shouldn’t do that” or “Oh a girl can’t do that!”. But it’s okay to be who you want to be. You are a unique person, you know who you are. You can be any kind of girl or boy.

Older Children

Remind the child that most people are happy with being a boy or girl, and that they may have been learning at school that they can be any kind of girl or boy they want to be. Explain then that there are some people who grow up feeling that their sex just doesn’t fit how they feel they are. Acknowledge that the children might have heard of the word transgender – explain that this describes people who feel that the sex they were given at birth doesn't match how they feel inside. For example, someone who was born as a girl but has always felt like a boy. Or someone born as a boy but has always felt like a girl. Sometimes when they are grown up a trans person will want to change their bodies. Sometimes a trans person will decide to keep their body as they were born but live as the gender they want to be seen as, so they might change their name or their clothes or hair.

Introduce the word **transphobia**, this is a word that explains when someone is hurt or put down because they are transgender. **Transphobia** is a kind of prejudice and discrimination. It is about what people think and do. The most important thing to remember when you hear about people who are transgender, or meet a person who is transgender, is that they are just like everyone else except for one thing, how their gender works. Remember too that every one of us is born unique and special, this is what makes us all so interesting.

<https://rshp.scot/>

January 2019