

Embedding LGBT content in the PSHE curriculum- Primary



From [LGBT Inclusive RSHE, Stonewall](#)

RELATIONSHIPS EDUCATION - PRIMARY



FAMILIES AND PEOPLE WHO CARE FOR ME

WHAT THE STATUTORY GUIDANCE FROM THE DFE SAYS YOU MUST COVER BY THE END OF PRIMARY. PUPILS SHOULD KNOW:

- that families are important for children growing up because they can give love, security and stability.
- the characteristics of healthy family life commitment to each other, including in times of difficulty protection and care for children and other family members, the importance of spending time together and sharing each other's lives.
- that others' families, either in school or in the wider world, sometimes look different from their family, but that they should respect those differences and know that other children's families are also characterised by love and care.
- that stable, caring relationships, which may be of different types, are at the heart of happy families, and are important for children's security as they grow up.
- that marriage represents a formal and legally recognised commitment of two people to each other which is intended to be lifelong.
- how to recognise if family relationships are making them feel unhappy or unsafe, and how to seek help or advice from others if needed.

HOW LGBTQ+ CONTENT COULD BE THREADED THROUGH THIS TOPIC AREA. CONSIDER TEACHING:

- that other children's families may look different to a pupil's own, but are just as valid and worthy of respect – this can cover lots of different family structures and we recommend explicitly including families with LGBTQ+ parents.
- that the law says same-sex couples can get married and adopt children.
- 📖 our Different Families resource pack provides a useful starting point for talking about the many ways in which caring families can be different from one another. It is included in [Annex B to the statutory guidance on RSHE, which lists suggested resources](#). Story books can also be helpful – our [primary school book list](#) has lots of recommendations.
- 📖 our Different Families lesson packs for [primary](#) and [special schools](#) may also be helpful.

Activity examples linked to PSHE Matters

KS1 (Growing Up)

Read 'Mr Seahorse' by Eric Carle, which is all about a Sea Horse who meets other fish fathers, and how they explore all the different ways of caring for their eggs and their babies.

KS1 (Difference and Diversity)

Read a book about Families e.g., Families by Todd Parr. Ask pupils to draw their family and discuss what is the same or different with a partner.

Lower KS2 (Relationships) Term 6 Year A

Share pictures of Kandinsky's 'Tree of Life'. Ask the class to each make their own family tree using different shapes and colours for each family members. Create a display, reflect on difference and any other family structures not represented that they may know of.

Upper KS2 (would work in Growing up)

Term 6 Year B

When teaching about how babies are made include other ways that a child joins a family, e.g., adoption, fertility treatment. e.g. using 'Making a Baby' by Rachel Greener and Clare Owen.

RESPECTFUL RELATIONSHIPS

WHAT THE STATUTORY GUIDANCE FROM THE DFE SAYS YOU MUST COVER BY THE END OF PRIMARY. PUPILS SHOULD KNOW:

- the importance of respecting others, even when they are very different from them (for example, e.g. physically, in character, personality or backgrounds), or make different choices to them, or have different preferences or beliefs.
- practical steps they can take in a range of different contexts to improve or support respectful relationships.
- the conventions of courtesy and manners.
- the importance of self-respect and how this links to their own happiness.
- that in school and in wider society they can expect to be treated with respect by others, and that in turn they should show due respect to others, including those in positions of authority.
- about different types of bullying (including cyberbullying), the impact of bullying, responsibilities of bystanders (primarily reporting bullying to an adult) and how to get help.
- what a stereotype is, and how stereotypes can be unfair, negative or destructive.
- the importance of permission-seeking and giving in relationships with friends, peers and adults.

HOW LGBTQ+ CONTENT COULD BE THREADED THROUGH THIS TOPIC AREA. CONSIDER TEACHING:

- about discrimination, including discrimination against LGBTQ+ people, and why this is wrong.
- what HBT bullying is, why it is wrong and how to respond to it safely and appropriately, including how to report it within your school.
- what gender stereotypes are and how they can be harmful for LGBTQ+ people specifically – for example, it is a gender stereotype that all women want to be in a romantic relationship with a man, and that all gay men are effeminate.

Activity examples linked to PSHE Matters

KS1 Difference and Diversity

Read 'The Queen Engineer' by Suzanne Hemmings. Build Towers in pairs and talk about the qualities and skills needed to do it.

Lower KS2 Bullying Matters

Use the following scenarios-
Bailey likes to wear sparkly dresses to parties.
Ola moved to this country recently with her family
Jean is in year 6 and collects flags.
In pairs list some of the possible unkind things that might be said when people are perceived as different. How might they make others feel?
Screw up the paper and write down friendly / kind/ supportive words instead.

Lower KS2 Growing Up Term 6 Year B

Compare two magazines – one aimed at boys, and one aimed at girls. Look at the colours, font and content. What messages might these give to an alien about gender? How might gender stereotypes impact on us in a way that is not helpful e.g., 'boys can't wear dresses', 'girls are not

Upper KS2 Bullying Matters Term 3 Year A

In a lesson about the difference between banter and bullying include reference to homophobic language, and why it's not ok to use the term gay as an insult. [Banter VS Bullying Lesson Plan and Presentation \(antibullyingpro.com\)](#)