

What is The Rainbow Flag Award?

The Rainbow Flag Award is a national quality assurance framework for primary schools, secondary schools, SEND schools and colleges. The award focuses on positive LGBT+, (lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans, plus other related identities), inclusion and visibility.

The Rainbow Flag Award encourages a whole organisation approach to LGBT+ inclusion, as well as developing strategies to effectively challenge and combat LGBTphobic bullying.

We are committed to improving the lives of all young people, as well as the LGBT+ young people at our school, those from LGBT+ families, and LGBT+ staff members. We are striving for Childwall Valley to become recognised as LGBT+ inclusive.

What is LGBTQ-inclusive education and why does it matter?

Every young person deserves to see themselves, their family, and the full diversity of our world reflected in their curriculum. This includes teaching about LGBTQ+ identities and issues. While we've made huge strides towards LGBTQ+ equality in recent decades, anti-LGBT bullying and language unfortunately still happens in Britain's schools. Nearly half of all LGBT pupils still face bullying for being who they are – and in order to change, it's essential to deliver a curriculum that encourages all children and young people to respect those around them and appreciate difference.

What has changed about Relationships and Sex Education?

In April 2019, with overwhelming support, parliament passed the new regulations for teaching Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) in England. Since September 2020, all primary schools in England have been required to teach Relationships Education (RE).

For primary schools, the guidance says that:

- Relationships Education must be taught in all schools in England
- All schools should teach about different families (which can include LGBTQ+ parents), along with families headed by grandparents, single parents, adoptive parents, and foster parents/carers, among other family structures
- Schools need to make sure that the needs of all pupils are appropriately met
- All pupils need to understand the importance of equality and respect
- Schools must ensure they comply with the relevant provisions of the Equality Act 2010, which name sexual orientation and gender reassignment as protected characteristics.

What do I do if my child asks challenging questions?

All young people need support and for LGBT+ young people, getting kind and clear support can be the key to thriving and going on to have happy and healthy lives.

For many parents, trying to get to grips with what it all means can be a real minefield. Society's views about gender identity and sexual orientation, and the language used to describe people's identities, are growing and changing all the time. If you're confused about some of the terms and language, take a look at the definitions on the following page.

As always, school are always available to support both parents and children. If you wish to discuss **anything**, please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher or alternatively Mrs Evans our Safeguarding Lead or Miss Gregory our Pastoral Lead.

There is also a wealth of support available via theproudtrust.org

Are you supporting a child or young person who has questions about gender and/or sexuality?



Maybe they have told you they are LGBT+?

Brought to you by The Proud Trust, a new online service for LGBT+ young people and those who support them.

Information and advice on

- ★ LGBT+ identities
- ★ LGBT+ inclusion
- ★ LGBT+ youth groups, and more!

Need support?

If there's something you'd like to talk through, you can connect with one of our LGBT+ youth workers using the 1-2-1 web chat.

Proud Connections



visit THEPROUDTRUST.ORG



funded by * lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans, plus other related identities

These words refer to **sexual orientation**. It is important to use all terms so that we don't make it seem like a certain sexual orientation is 'normal'.

Lesbian

Women who are attracted to women

Gay

Men who are attracted to men or a person attracted to another person of the same gender

Bisexual

A person who is attracted to their own and other genders

Straight

A person who is attracted to the 'opposite' or a different gender to their own

These words refer to **gender identity**. It is important to use all terms so that we don't make it seem like a certain gender identity is 'normal' and doesn't need a term.

Trans

A person whose gender is different to the one assigned at birth

Non-binary

A person whose gender doesn't sit comfortably with "woman" or "man"

Cis

A person whose gender is the same as the one given at birth

This flag is often used to represent the celebration of different gender identities.

