

CARD CHALLENGE_

LGBTQ+ TERMS

AND DEFINITIONS

INTRO

This resource can be used by Anti-Bullying Ambassadors as a matching activity for LGBTQ+ terms and definitions with their peers, parents or school staff. It can also be used by school staff with their students.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Help students understand the correct terminology to use for different people in the LGBTQ+ community
- Help promote diversity and inclusion

LGBTQ+ DICTIONARY_

Ally

A (typically) straight and/or cis person who supports members of the LGBTQ+ community.

Asexual

A person of any gender or sexual orientation who does not experience sexual attraction to anyone but may experience romantic attraction.

Bisexual

Refers to a person of any gender who experiences romantic and/or sexual attraction to people of more than one gender.

Cisgender

Someone whose gender identity is the same as the sex they were assigned at birth e.g. someone assigned female at birth and identifies as a woman.

Gay

Often refers more commonly to a man who has a romantic and or sexual attraction to other men. Some women may define themselves as this rather than lesbian.

Gender Identity

How a person feels inside about their gender and who they are. They may identify as a man, a woman, both, neither or in another way.

Heterosexual/Straight

A person who is attracted to people of the opposite gender to their own e.g. a man who is attracted to women.

Heteronormativity

The assumption that everyone is heterosexual (straight) and this is 'the norm' in society.

Homophobia/Biphobia/Transphobia

Discrimination against and/or fear/ dislike of lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender people (including those perceived to be gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgender).

Lesbian

A woman who experiences romantic and/or sexual attraction to other women.

Non-Binary

A term for people whose gender identity does not fit into male or female.

A non-binary person might consider themselves to be neither male nor female, both or sometimes male and sometimes female.

Out/Coming Out

LGBTQ+ people living openly and telling people about their sexual orientation and/or gender identity.

It's a process - some people will be out in some places and to some people but not to others.

Pansexual

A person of any gender who experiences romantic and/or sexual attraction to people regardless of their gender identity.

Pronouns

Words used to refer to someone when not using their name like he/she/his/hers.

They usually suggest a person's gender. Some people prefer gender neutral pronouns e.g. they/them/theirs.

Queer

In the past, a derogatory term for LGBTQ+ people, now reclaimed particularly by LGBTQ+ people who don't identify with traditional categories around gender identity and/or sexual orientation.

Questioning

A word used to describe people who are unsure or exploring their sexual orientation or gender identity.

Sexual Orientation

Used to describe who a person is romantically and/or sexually attracted to, commonly based on gender.

Sometimes the word 'sexuality' is used instead.

Trans

An umbrella term used to describe people whose gender is not the same as, or does not sit comfortably with, the sex they were assigned at birth.

Transition

The process or steps a trans person may take to live in the gender with which they identify. It may involve things like dressing differently and changing official documents and for some, though not all, things like hormone therapy or surgery.