

**WHAT TO DO**

**IF A YOUNG PERSON**

**COMES OUT TO YOU**

## **THANK YOU**

Coming out may not seem like a huge deal to straight or cis allies, but for the young person in question it's huge. Thank them for confiding in you and feeling like they were able to tell you.

## **CONFIDENTIALITY**

Respect Confidentiality - reassure them that the information is safe with you until they are ready to tell others. Feel free to ask them if they have told other people.

## **RESEARCH**

Research services that may be useful to the young person for seeking support. See our other documents for LGBT+ charities and services.

## **AVOID ASSUMPTIONS**

Avoid 'we always knew' or 'well, obviously'. These assumptions are often grounded in stereotypes and may be offensive to the individual.

## **BE THERE**

Let them know that you are always there to talk and support them. Don't forget to tell them how brilliant they are!

**IMPORTANT:** Coming out is not a safeguarding issue! So don't pass the information on to other members of staff or the young person's parents or guardians. This could put the individual in danger.



FROM THE DIANA AWARD