

# Norfolk Secondary Schools Survey for LGBT History Month - February 2015

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## Introduction

We want to find out what language you hear or use in school. In particular we want to find out which words you think are ok to use to describe something or someone, and which words you think are offensive.

### Will anyone know they are my answers?

No your answers to this survey are private. This means that we do not know your name and no one will know who said what. We do ask you to tell us some things about yourself, like whether you have a disability or whether you are a boy or a girl. If you reply that you are worried about your safety, we will need to let your school know about this, so they can make changes to help people like you. They still will not see your answers.

### What if I don't want to answer a question?

Just miss it out and move on to the next one. The only question we need an answer for is which school you go to.

### What if I don't want to answer any questions?

You don't have to do this questionnaire. If you don't want to, tell your teacher.

Thank you for taking part in the survey. It should take you 10-20 minutes to complete.

- 1) Which secondary school do you go to at the moment? Please click on the drop down menu and select your school. \***

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## About you

The first few questions are about you. Please remember you can leave out any of these questions. If you answer them, please click on one answer only.

- 2) Are you a girl or a boy?**

- ☐ Girl  
☐ Boy

- 3) Which year are you in?**

- ☐ Year 7  
☐ Year 8  
☐ Year 9  
☐ Year 10  
☐ Year 11

- 4) Do you have a statement of Special Educational Needs (SEN) or an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHC Plan)?**

- ☐ Yes  
☐ No

☐ I'm not sure

**5) Do you have a disability that affects your everyday activities?**

- ☐ Yes  
☐ No  
☐ I'm not sure

**6) Which of these best describes you?**

- ☐ White British  
☐ White Irish  
☐ White other  
☐ Mixed  
☐ Asian or Asian British  
☐ Black or Black British  
☐ Chinese  
☐ Other (please specify):

**7) What is your main language?**

- ☐ English  
☐ Another language

**8) Which of the following best describes how you think about yourself?**

- ☐ Straight / Heterosexual  
☐ Gay / Lesbian  
☐ Bisexual  
☐ Transgender/Transsexual  
☐ Not sure  
☐ Prefer not to say  
☐ Other - please write your answer here:

**9) Who do you live with most of the time?**

- ☐ With my parent or parents  
☐ With another relative  
☐ With a carer who is not my parent or relative

**10) Are you in the care of Children's Services (used to be known as Social Services)?**

- ☐ Yes

- ☐ No
- ☐ I'm not sure

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## Words you hear at school

**11) How often do you hear people at school say things like "that's so gay" or "you're so gay" about something or someone they think is rubbish or boring?**

- ☐ All the time (more than once a day)
- ☐ A lot (about once every day)
- ☐ Fairly often (about once a week)
- ☐ Occasionally (about once a month)
- ☐ Never

**12) How often do you say things like "that's so gay" or "you're so gay" about something or someone you think is rubbish or boring?**

- ☐ All the time (more than once a day)
- ☐ A lot (about once every day)
- ☐ Fairly often (about once a week)
- ☐ Occasionally (about once a month)
- ☐ Never

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## Words you hear at school

**13) How often do you hear people at school say things like "you're a lesbian" or "she's such a dyke" about someone they don't like?**

- ☐ All the time (more than once a day)
- ☐ A lot (about once every day)
- ☐ Fairly often (about once a week)
- ☐ Occasionally (about once a month)
- ☐ Never

**14) How often do you say things like "you're a lesbian" or "you're such a dyke" about someone you don't like?**

- ☐ All the time (more than once a day)
- ☐ A lot (about once every day)
- ☐ Fairly often (about once a week)
- ☐ Occasionally (about once a month)
- ☐ Never

**15) How often do you hear pupils say things like "he is so gay" or "she is such a dyke" to describe a teacher they don't like?**

- ☐ All the time (more than once a day)
- ☐ A lot (about once every day)
- ☐ Fairly often (about once a week)
- ☐ Occasionally (about once a month)
- ☐ Never

**16) Do you agree or disagree with these statements...**

	Agree	Disagree	I don't know
Gay is a good word to use to describe something that is rubbish or boring.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I think it is offensive to describe something or someone as gay because you think they are rubbish or boring.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I don't think I should call something or someone I don't like as gay, but I do it because my friends do.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pupils are picked on at this school when they do not behave like a 'typical girl' or a 'typical boy'.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
We should learn more about all types of relationships at school, including those of gay, bisexual and transgender people.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**17) How often do teachers or other members of staff challenge pupils when they use phrases like "that's so gay" or "you're so gay" to describe something or someone as rubbish or boring?**

- ☐ Every time they hear it.
- ☐ Nearly every time they hear it.
- ☐ Sometimes.
- ☐ Never.

**18) How often do pupils challenge other pupils when they hear them use phrases like "that's so gay" or "you're so gay" to describe something or someone as rubbish or boring?**

- ☐ Every time they hear it.
- ☐ Nearly every time they hear it.
- ☐ Sometimes.
- ☐ Never.

**19) How often do you challenge other pupils when they say things like "that's so gay" or "you're so gay" to describe something or someone as rubbish or boring?**

- ☐ Every time they hear it.

- ☐ Nearly every time they hear it.
- ☐ Sometimes.
- ☐ Never.

**20) Have you talked about or read stories about gay people?**

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ I'm not sure

**21) Have you learnt at school what gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender mean?**

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ I'm not sure

**22) Do you know what the word homophobic means?**

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ I'm not sure

**23) Do you know what the word biphobic means?**

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ I'm not sure

**24) Do you know what the word transphobic means?**

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ I'm not sure

Bullying means people doing nasty or unkind things to you on purpose, more than once, which it is difficult to stop. It is different from when two friends of the same strength have the odd fall out or quarrel.

Homophobic bullying is bullying someone because they are gay or lesbian, or because someone thinks they are gay or lesbian.

Biphobic bullying is bullying someone because they are bisexual, or because someone thinks they are bisexual.

Transphobic bullying stems from a hatred or fear of people who are transgender. 'Transgender' is as an umbrella term that describes people whose sense of their gender or gender identity is seen as being different to typical gender norms.

Different groups of people experience homophobic bullying:

- Young people who are lesbian, gay or bisexual(LGB).
- Young people who are thought to be lesbian, gay or bisexual.
- Young people who are different in some way – they may not act like the other boys or girls.
- Young people who have gay friends, or family, or their parents/carers are gay.
- Teachers, who may or may not be lesbian, gay or bisexual.

**25) Have you ever experienced homophobic bullying?**

- ☐ Yes, a lot  
☐ Yes, a little  
☐ No  
☐ I'm not sure

**26) Have you ever experienced biphobic bullying?**

- ☐ Yes, a lot  
☐ Yes, a little  
☐ No  
☐ I'm not sure

**27) Have you ever experienced transphobic bullying?**

- ☐ Yes, a lot  
☐ Yes, a little  
☐ No  
☐ I'm not sure

**28) What do you think your school and Norfolk County Council should do to tackle homophobic, biphobic and transphobic bullying?**

**What can you do to challenge homophobic, biphobic and transphobic bullying?**

It is OK to use the word 'gay', 'lesbian', 'bisexual' or 'transgender' to describe someone who is gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgender. We want you to feel confident to respond if you hear someone using these words in a negative or offensive way.

**Here are some ways you could respond:**

"In this school, we don't use language like that. There is nothing wrong with being gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgender."

"That kind of language is homophobic/biphobic/transphobic and you know it's against school policy to make homophobic/biphobic/transphobic remarks. Homophobia, biphobia and transphobia are as bad as racism and sexism."

"How do you think (name of someone) feels? How would you like it if someone called you names like that?"

"What do you mean by 'that's so gay!/lezzies?'"

"You wouldn't say that someone's trainers are so 'black', would you? So it's not acceptable to say that they're so 'gay' either."

"Gay is a word we use to describe people who love people of the same sex, not a nasty word to use against people."

"I'm really disappointed to hear you talking like that. In this school we treat everyone with respect and it is wrong to use homophobic and transphobic language."

"I don't like you using language like that. I think it's offensive."

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## Thank you

Thank you for taking the time to complete the survey. We will tell headteachers what the survey found out to help them stop bullying in schools.

If you have a problem with any issues relating to bullying, please talk to someone. A teacher or headteacher will be able to help you. If your school has a peer-support scheme, you could use that. If you do not feel comfortable talking to someone in your school, you can talk to someone you can trust, a friend, parent or carer. They can come with you to talk to a teacher or someone else about the problem.

You can also call ChildLine free on 0800 1111, someone is there all the time and the number will not show up on the telephone bill. If you cannot get through the first time please try again.

There is lots of information for young people that are gay, lesbian, bisexual or questioning on the Stonewall website: [www.youngstonewall.org.uk](http://www.youngstonewall.org.uk).

Support is also available for young people in Norfolk please visit: [www.blahyouth.co.uk](http://www.blahyouth.co.uk).

REMEMBER: KEEPING QUIET ABOUT BULLYING ALLOWS IT TO GO ON

When you press 'Finish survey' your answers will be sent to us and the survey will close.