



European vision of LGBT+ friendly schools

What it takes to be(come) an LGBT+ friendly school!

basic principles



- written educational ideals adopted by the whole school family (staff, teachers, students and parents)
- inclusive school environment
- anti-bullying-strategy
- mentality to stand up against any kind of discrimination
- implementation of educational principles

staff



- person of trust
- LBGT+- group / focus group (open for teachers, students,...)
- role models
- psychological support (by LBGT+ experienced people)

curriculum



subjects

- specific subject “sexual education”: developing an understanding of terms and ideas
- all subjects in all grades involved
- diverse material for all subjects

literature, art, music

- biographies of famous LGBT+ authors, artists, etc.
- search for and analysis of autobiographical elements in their work
- drawings / paintings in art lessons

(foreign) language classes

- embedding LGBT+ topics
- screenings of LGBT+ related films
- learning appropriate vocabulary
- poetry (slam) for diversity

visibility



architecture

- gender-neutral toilets
- gender neutral dressing rooms (sports)

interior designs

- multicoloured / rainbow-coloured areas (stairs, classrooms)
- LGBT+ wall
- rainbow curtain
- coloured balloons

surrounding/decorations

- poster/photo gallery
- rainbow and other inclusive stickers
- various LGBT+ flags placed around the school with a guide to their meanings
- (- rainbow bicycle storage)

equipment

- a library containing LGBT+ material
- informational flyer
- rainbow-coloured lanyard, gadgets, pins

activities



organizing thematic days/weeks

- rainbow day
- annual day of solidarity with LGBT+ people
- relationship days
- IDAHOT day

actions / projects

- workshops / teacher trainings on inclusive attitude (e. g. regarding inclusive language,...)
- scenic representation / drama / movie project
- thematic walk around hometown / next big city (important LGBT+ places and people)
- fundraising for specific organisations / purposes

meetings / talks with

- activists working with LGBT+ organizations
- (famous) people from the LGBT+ community
- family of LGBT+ people

(social) media activities

- eTwinning sessions, Instagram, twitter, ...: creating videos; dissemination

communication



transparent feedback culture

- regular surveys
- anonymous letter box

inclusive language

- in official documents / school material
- banning of insulting words (“gay”)
- using appropriate pronouns

cooperation



building networks / cooperation

- with non-governmental organizations
- media
- politicians
- clergy
- universities
- other external partners

What could be done to improve the LGBT+ situation in schools?

