

## Wellington School LGBTQ+ sessions

Led by Miss Tedford & Mr Murphy

I have set up and been running LGBTQ+ sessions at Wellington now for a number of years. With each new cohort, there are pupils who identify as being part of the LGBTQ+ community and staff who are keen to get involved and support these young people.

The purpose of these fortnightly lunch time sessions is primarily, to provide a safe space for pupils to spend their lunch times and to simply be themselves. In addition to this, pupils have the opportunity to make new friends, discuss/debate important topical issues and learn about issues that LGBTQ+ people face, alongside LGBTQ+ book recommendations, inspiring LGBTQ+ role models in the Media and many other things!

As we all know, it's so important as a school, to establish a safe learning environment for all pupils in our care & to not allow homophobia or discrimination of any kind. By having such a club, the aim is to highlight the importance of tolerance, acceptance, diversity & open-mindedness; after all, we are all different and this is what makes us unique.

We have previously celebrated Pride Month, LGBTQ+ History Month, raised awareness of issues surrounding Trans Awareness and LGBTQ+ labelling, invited guest speakers from Kooth Counselling Services to provide presentations & attended (with other schools in the Trafford area) an LGBTQ+ conference at Sale Grammar School, which was a major success and the first of its kind.

For as long as there is a need for it, the club will continue to run and celebrate our pupils within the LGBTQ+ community at Wellington School.

- Miss Tedford