

WHAT STUDENTS WANT YOU TO KNOW ABOUT:

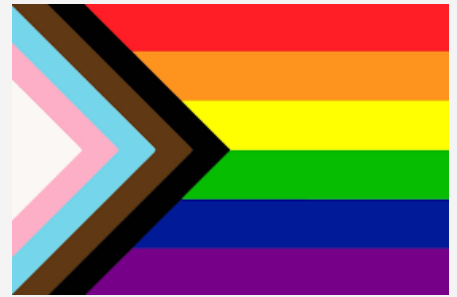
# LGBTQIA+ Inclusion in Schools

CREATED BY THE WNY YOUTH ALLIANCE FOR EDUCATION

The WNY Youth Alliance for Education (YAE) centers youth voices in building better educational systems and advancing innovative, equity-focused actions, initiatives and policies intended to more broadly improve educational spaces for youth in Buffalo and Western New York

## Tip 1: Learn students' preferred names and correct pronouns

Incorporate opportunities and activities in your classroom for you and your students to learn each other's chosen name and pronouns, including through icebreaker activities, student name tags, attendance sheets, and student seating charts



## Tip 2: Be aware of your own biases regarding LGBTQIA+ students

It is your job to welcome and include everyone, regardless of their gender or sexuality, in your classroom and school. Try your best to check your bias at the door.

## Tip 3: Use gender neutral language

Instead of saying "Hello Boys and Girls" try...  
"Hello Friends"  
"Hello Students"  
or "Hello Family".

## Tip 4: Integrate LGBTQIA+ perspectives and authors in your classes

In History class discuss Marsha P. Johnson and the Stonewall Riots when reviewing civil rights. In English class include works by queer authors throughout the year.

## Percent of LGBT High School Students\*

**2.5% Gay or Lesbian**

**1.8% Transgender**

**8% Bisexual**

**5% Questioning**

These students have been here and we need to start supporting them.

## Tip 5: Give students space to ask questions about gender and sexuality

Create a box for anonymous questions, and make sure to learn about these topics yourself before answering student questions.

## Resources for Teachers and Students:

<https://www.glsen.org/>  
<https://gsanetwork.org/>  
<https://pointfoundation.org/>  
<http://safeschoolscoalition.org/>  
<https://www.thetrevorproject.org/>  
<https://itgetsbetter.org/>  
<https://www.stompoutbullying.org/>  
[/lgbtq-bullying](https://www.stompoutbullying.org/lgbtq-bullying)

All statistics from the 2017 Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance,  
<https://www.cdc.gov/healthyyouth/data/yrbs/pdf/2017/ss6708.pdf>