

Get involved in IDAHOBIT on May 17th 2018!



International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia, Intersexism and Transphobia (IDAHOBIT) is recognised each year on May 17 in over 60 countries. The day is an opportunity to shine a light on gender and sexual discrimination, while celebrating diversity.

Here's some things that other schools have done, and some ideas from the IDAHOBIT website! Make sure you put an article in your school newsletter letting people know about IDAHOBIT Day!

Go Rainbow! <p>Get everyone to stand out against homophobia, biphobia and transphobia at school by hosting a rainbow clothes day for a gold coin donation. You can also decorate the school or raise the rainbow flag.</p>	Run an Event <p>Like a BBQ, lunchtime concert or assembly. You could host a rainbow themed bake sale or have volunteers handing out rainbow ribbons on the day or face painting! Share your photos from the day using #IDAHOBIT</p>
Start A Project <p>Use IDAHOBIT as a way to rally other students and staff together to start an ongoing project that supports sexual and gender diversity, such as a whole school strategy banning "that's so gay".</p>	Take the Pledge <p>Students could make a public pledge to support the LGBTIQ+ community – invite students to sign their name on a banner that can be displayed for the rest of the year. See a sample pledge here: https://www.idahobit.org.au/images/posters/pledge.pdf</p>
Get educated <p>Make sure your school is up with all the info in the DECD supporting same sex attracted, intersex and gender diverse students policy and transgender and intersex student support procedure – both can be found on the DECD website.</p>	Plan and deliver a lesson <p>Plan and deliver a lesson on homophobia and transphobia, or sexual and gender diversity. Check your year 8, 9 and 10 SHINE booklets, look up 'All of Us' on the Student Wellbeing Hub or contact us!</p>

Check out <https://www.idahobit.org.au/> for more ideas

It is important to remember that taking action on IDAHOT is just one part of a broader strategy to create a safe and inclusive learning/working environment for your school community

Key messages for IDAHOT can include:

- LGBTIQ (Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex and queer) students, staff and families are an important part of our school community.
- IDAHOT 2017 has a focus on the role of families in the well-being of their LGBTIQ members and the respect of the rights of rainbow families
- Discrimination and exclusion of LGBTIQ people will not be tolerated.

The Department for Education outline the following measures as key indicators of a safe and inclusive school

THERE ARE CLEAR SIGNS OF SUPPORT FOR GENDER AND SEXUAL DIVERSITY AROUND THE SCHOOL INCLUDING:

- Posters are displayed in prominent places, regularly updated, checked and protected from vandalism.
- Information in newsletters to students and parents about activities relating to sexual diversity.
- Leadership and practical support for student activism aimed at challenging homophobia and creating safe environments.

SEXUALITY EDUCATION AND OTHER AREAS OF THE CURRICULUM ARE INCLUSIVE OF GENDER AND SEXUAL DIVERSITY INCLUDING:

- There is visibility of sexual and gender diversity in the school curriculum. This might be the teaching of texts with sexual and gender diverse characters or themes or the use of relevant case studies, examples or scenarios.

ANTI-BULLYING POLICIES AND PROCEDURE ARE IN PLACE TO ACTIVELY TACKLE HOMOPHOBIA AND TRANSPHOBIA INCLUDING

- Naming homophobia and transphobia specifically in the school bullying policy.
- Having clear procedures for dealing with complaints about homophobia and transphobia.
- Having clear consequences for perpetrators of homophobic or transphobic bullying.

STUDENTS AND STAFF HAVE ACCESS TO RESOURCES THAT GIVE INFORMATION ABOUT GENDER DIVERSITY AND DIVERSE SEXUALITIES INCLUDING:

- Books, booklets and pamphlets available in the school library.
- Online information about sexual diversity is accessible on school computers

Supporting Sexual Diversity in Schools: A guide,
Department of Education and Children's Services, February
2012

More support -

SHINE SA delivers the **Safe Schools Anti-bullying Initiative** across South Australia which provides free support for schools, including tailored professional development. For further info contact Kelly on 83005328 or safe.schools@shinesa.org.au

