

Pride – The Stonewall Uprising (Teacher Notes)



This assembly can be used before or during Pride Month in your primary setting, during the summer term. It explains what the Pride events are and gives some background on why Pride Month is celebrated.

It explains how the Stonewall Riots took place in 1969, in New York, USA. We have carefully considered how to help young children understand why the LGBT+ community felt the need to protest against the laws that were in place at the time. It is important to explain that during this time, LGBT+ people were not treated as equals.

This assembly supports the statutory Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education and Health Education guidance:

36. In teaching Relationships Education and RSE, schools should ensure that the needs of all pupils are appropriately met, and that all pupils understand the importance of equality and respect. Schools must ensure that they comply with the relevant provisions of the Equality Act 2010, (please see The Equality Act 2010 and schools: Departmental advice), under which sexual orientation and gender reassignment are amongst the protected characteristics.

37. Schools should ensure that all of their teaching is sensitive and age appropriate in approach and content. At the point at which schools consider it appropriate to teach their pupils about LGBT, they should ensure that this content is fully integrated into their programmes of study for this area of the curriculum rather than delivered as a standalone unit or lesson. Schools are free to determine how they do this, and we expect all pupils to have been taught LGBT content at a timely point as part of this area of the curriculum.

The assembly contains the following terms:

LGBT+ - This term stands for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (plus other gender- and sexual orientation-related ways to identify).

Lesbian - This word describes women who are attracted to other women.

Gay - This word is used to describe men who are attracted to other men and women who are attracted to other women.

Bisexual - This word describes someone who is attracted to more than one gender.

Transgender - This word describes people who do not feel that their gender matches the sex they were assigned at birth. A transgender person may feel that their body or appearance does not match up with how they feel about themselves and how they identify.

Drag Queen - This term describes a person who extravagantly performs as a 'gender' which is usually (but not always) different from their own. They might dress up in a very fancy, creative way as a form of expression and take on a different character, with a different name.

If you would like help explaining the above terms to children, you might like to use the Pop'n'Olly book *What Does LGBT+ Mean?*

We also have a whole range of free videos that can be used with primary school children to help explain terms in a way that is age-appropriate and will make sense to them. You might want to find the following at [youtube.com/popnolly](https://www.youtube.com/popnolly).

- *Identity Explained for Children*
- *Love Explained for Kids*
- *Sexual Orientation Explained for Kids*
- *Drag Explained for Kids*