

Address equitable uniform options and approaches

A suggestion for implementing the strategy 'Address immediate environmental, physical and social needs' from the Guide: [LGBTIQA+ students](#)

Includes:

- Understand threats to learning
- Develop inclusive uniform policies
- Tips for inclusive uniforms
- Facilitate community discussion
- Useful resources

Inclusive Education

From

Guide: [Supporting LGBTIQ+ students](#)

Strategy: [Address immediate environmental, physical and social needs](#)

Suggestion: [Address equitable uniform options and approaches](#)

Date

25 April 2019

Link

www.inclusive.tki.org.nz/guides/supporting-lgbtika-students/address-equitable-uniform-options-and-approaches

Understand threats to learning

Consider the impact of your school's uniform options.

When students have to wear uniforms they don't feel comfortable about, the likelihood of their leaving school early or being disengaged from learning increases.

Ideally all schools should have uniform options that include both pants and skirts and zero tolerance of any bullying of students related to the uniform they choose to wear.

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Develop inclusive uniform policies



Source: [Dunedin North Intermediate School](#)

Source:

[Dunedin North Intermediate School](#)

<http://www.dni.school.nz>

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Principal, Dunedin North Intermediate

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Tips for inclusive uniforms

Providing flexible, inclusive uniform options is a critical step in preventing discrimination on the basis of gender.

- ▲▲ Provide students with the option of wearing any part of the school uniform, regardless of their gender.
- ▲▲ Categorise uniform options by type rather than by gender – “shirts” and “trousers”, rather than “boy’s uniform” and “girl’s uniform”.
- ▲▲ Enforce uniform standards equally, regardless of gender identity (for example, hair length, make up and jewellery).
- ▲▲ Explicitly acknowledge transgender and gender diverse students in your school uniform policy or dress code.
- ▲▲ Actively publicise your new school uniform policy in the school newsletter, website, and foyer notice boards.

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Facilitate community discussion



Source: [Minus18](#)

Source:

[Minus18](#)

<https://www.minus18.org.au/>

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Consider together how gender-diverse uniform options can help remove barriers to learning and support engagement.

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Useful resources



Example policy: Gender neutral uniform policy

Read time: 2 min

Publisher: Educate & Celebrate

[Download PDF](#)



Affirming diversity of sexualities and gender identities in the school community

Read time: 36 min

Publisher: New Zealand Post Primary Teachers' Association

[Visit website](#)

Dunedin North Intermediate School uniform procedure

Publisher: Dunedin North Intermediate School

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