

Inclusive Education

From

Guide: [Supporting LGBTIQ+ students](#)

Strategy: [Develop an inclusive classroom and curriculum](#)

Suggestion: [Plan sexuality and gender education years 1-8](#)

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Link

inclusive.tki.org.nz/guides/supporting-lgbtqa-students/plan-sexuality-and-gender-education-years-1-8

Understand stages of development

Design learning programmes that meet students' developmental stages

Ages 5-8

By the age of six, most children show an interest in how babies are made.

They will want to know how the egg and sperm get together.

They are interested in pregnancy and birth.

Some children in this age group may be aware of the connection between "making babies" and sexual pleasure.

They are likely to hear stories about sex in the playground.

Some children will become aware that not everyone is heterosexual.

They have a growing awareness of sanctioned gender roles, such as "girls don't play soccer" or "boys don't cry".

Ages 9-12

Children's bodies develop and change while at primary school.

All children need to know about puberty before it happens.

Sometimes children feel anxious about puberty.

Children have a growing interest in sex. They may look up information in books, tell rude jokes and talk with their friends about sex.

They may go into and out of gender segregation, applying harsh gender stereotypical rules and censure to each other's behaviour.

Some children will have an interest in expressing their sexuality in dress.

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