



# LGBT+ History Month at Highlands School

## LGBT+ terms and definitions

What does LGBT+ mean?



### LESBIAN (L)

Women who are attracted to women.  
Some non-binary people may identify with this term.



### HETEROSEXUAL

Men who are attracted to women, and women who are attracted to men.



### GAY (G)

People who are attracted to the same gender.



### NON-BINARY

People whose gender identity isn't either male or female.



### Bisexual (B)

People who are attracted to more than one gender.



### GENDER FLUID

People whose gender identity is not fixed but changes depending on the context and how they are feeling.



### Transgender (T)

People whose gender identity is not the same as the sex they were assigned at birth.

What do we hope to achieve this month?

- To show support for LGBT+ community by celebrating LGBT+ History Month.
- To learn about the positive contributions that LGBT+ people make to our society.
- To learn about the importance of LGBT+ History Month.
- To educate ourselves on LGBT+ issues so we can show respect and understanding, creating a welcoming and safe community for LGBT+ people.





## What is LGBT+ History Month?

- LGBT+ History Month started in 1994 in the USA and was then adopted by the UK in 2004.
- Sue Sanders and Paul Patrick (pictured on the right) are the founders of UK's LGBT+ History Month.
- Both the founders of the USA and UK LGBT+ month were school teachers who were concerned about homophobic bullying in schools.



## What are the aims of LGBT+ History Month?

- Increasing the visibility of LGBT+ people, their history, lives and their experiences.
- Raising awareness and advancing education on matters affecting the LGBT+ community.
- Working to make educational and other institutions safe spaces for all LGBT+ communities.
- Promoting the welfare of LGBT+ people.
- Challenge misconceptions and stereotypes about LGBT+ people.





# LGBT+ rights in the UK

- The 2010 UK Equality Act protects the rights of LGBT+ people at work, in school and in places such as hotels and in public spaces.
- British Values: one of which is mutual respect.
- LGBT+ couples can adopt and foster children.
- LGBT+ people have the same rights as heterosexual people to medical support to have children, eg: IVF and sperm donation.
- There has been a 40% increase in the number of LGBT families since 2015.
- Ofsted requires that all schools take actions to eradicate homophobic and transphobic bullying and promote equality.



## Celebrating the lives of LGBT+ people and their contributions

Noel Deyzel

Noel Deyzel is a South African content creator and bodybuilder, known for his motivational and fitness content. He is an openly gay man.

He is an inspiration for everyone, and has made videos on mental health struggles, and specifically the taboo topic of men's mental health.





# LGBT+ History Month 2024



Since 2005 when it was founded, LGBT+ History Month has been celebrated every year in February. This is a chance to celebrate the history and recognise the rights of LGBTQ+ people.

The 2024 theme celebrates LGBT+ peoples' contribution to the field of Medicine and Healthcare both historically and today.

## Sophia Jex Blake

Sophia Jex Blake fought for her right to attend medical school, and in 1869, she became the first woman to enroll at the University of Edinburgh to study medicine.

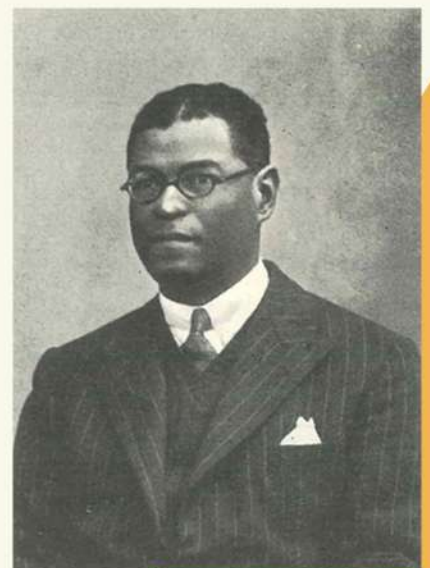
She also went on to inspire more girls to pursue their dreams, breaking down barriers in the process, by establishing two medical schools - one in London and the other in Edinburgh.



## Cecil Belfield Clarke

Cecil Belfield Clarke was a remarkable Barbadian-born physician.

Notably, he developed the 'Clark's rule', a mathematical formula for calculating medicine dosage for children aged 2-17 which is still used today.





# LGBTQ+ History Month 2024



## Margaret Stacey

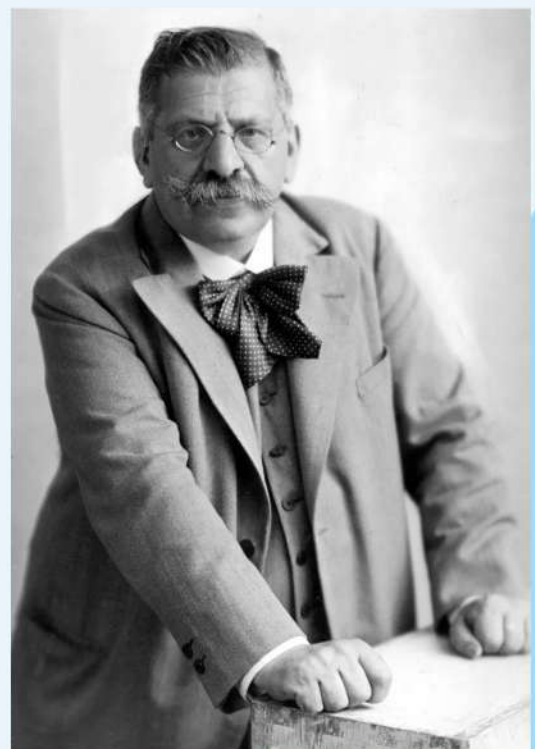
Margaret Stacey was a British Sociologist who she spearheaded the revolutionary research project "Children in Hospital," focusing on the wellbeing of children receiving medical care.

She was also a pioneer in establishing medical sociology as a field of study.

## Magnus Hirschfeld

Magnus Hirschfeld was a German Jewish doctor and a leading researcher of sex, sexuality, and gender.

His clinic was targeted early on by the Nazi party. his library and research were considered the first book burning by the Third Reich.





# LGBT+ Statistics

- Even though there are so many positive stories to tell about LGBT+ inclusion, there is still a lot of homophobia, transphobia and biphobia around the world.
- In a survey by the LGBT+ charity Stonewall, they found that too many young LGBT+ people were having a very negative experience at school by being bullied.
- Here are some important statistics from their research. These statistics are very sad and it is important that these things do not happen at Highlands School.
- We do not want any of our students to hear or be on the receiving end of homophobic language or bullying.

**45% of LGBT+ students are bullied at school.**

**50% of bullied LGBT+ students say this negatively impacts on their future educational plans.**

**61% of LGBT+ students have self harmed because of bullying and this rises to 84% for bullied transgender students.**

**40% of bullied LGBT+ students regularly miss school.**



# Challenging misconceptions about LGBT+ people

- A misconception is something that is incorrectly believed to be true based on misunderstanding and or lack of education.
- Misconceptions about LGBT+ people lead to discrimination.
- Each of the following statements are misconceptions.

**Sexual orientation** and gender identity are the same thing.



**Sexual orientation** refers to who we are romantically attracted to.

Gender identity is a way to describe how someone feels about their gender.

For example, some people may identify as a boy or a girl, while others may find neither of these terms feel right for them, and identify as neither or somewhere in the middle.



Being LGBT is a choice.



In the same way that heterosexual people would not say that their sexual orientation is natural and part of who they are, the same applies for lesbian, gay and bisexual people.



A boy who appears feminine or a girl who appears masculine must be gay.



You cannot assume anyone's sexual orientation by the way they look. Just because someone does not conform to gender stereotypes, does not mean they are gay or lesbian.

Gay and bisexual people, like heterosexual people, do not have a specific look.





# What are we doing at Highlands to support LGBT+ equality?

- Encouraging all students to be an ally.
- Making sure our school is a safe space.
- Implementing our school ethos: DARE values.
- Following our Behaviour policy and expectations: there is zero tolerance to any forms of discrimination.
- Marking LGBT+ month with LGBT+ assemblies for all year groups.
- Staff wearing rainbow lanyards.
- Staff and students wearing LGBT+ badges.
- Holding diversity role models workshop for all year 8 students.
- Teaching a PSHE and RSE curriculum that is fully LGBT inclusive.

## What do we need all students to do?

- Be kind, offer support and show empathy.
- Never use any form of discriminatory language (“I didn’t know, will not be accepted as an excuse”).
- Understand that discrimination is not only illegal but against our school policy.
- Be an ally. You don’t have to be LGBT+ to support those who are.
- Challenge misconceptions and discrimination.
- Never out someone.
- Just because you think someone is LGBT+ you do not have the right to ask personal questions.
- Respect people’s chosen name and pronoun.
- Wear an LGBT+ badge in support (if you want to).