

Providing LGBT-Friendly Sexual and Reproductive Health Services in Schools:

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR SCHOOL NURSES AND HEALTH CENTER STAFF IN MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOLS

Make your support visible:
Clearly post signs or posters that show the clinic is welcoming to LGBT young people.

Train all staff members in LGBT health:
From the start to the end of the visit, every interaction should be sensitive, non-judgmental, and respectful of LGBT young people.

Ask students what name and pronouns they use, and then use them. Model understanding by including your pronouns when introducing yourself.

Don't assume the gender of a patient's romantic or sexual partners:
Ask "are you seeing someone?" rather than "do you have a boyfriend?"

Welcome fluidity:
Some young people's gender identity or sexual orientation changes over time, and some reject using a label. That's ok. Let patients tell you who they are.

Make your intake forms inclusive:
When asking about gender, offer choices including male, female, transgender male, transgender female, non-binary, and other.

Support healthy relationships:
Good communication and mutual respect are important in relationships regardless of the gender of someone's partner.

Provide health services based on behavior, not identity:
Don't assume risk behavior based on identity alone.

Maintain confidentiality:
It is important that LGBT youth know the protections and limits of confidentiality, and are able to decide when and to whom to disclose their identities.

**Rights.
Respect.
Responsibility.**

**Advocates
for Youth**

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