



Wellfield Academy

Headteacher Mr J Lewis

8th June 2023

Pride Groups

Dear Parent/Guardian

Student Council is a very valued student leadership opportunity within our school. During a recent meeting the focus was on Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer/Questioning (LGBTQ) inclusivity, and they feedback that the students within school would like more opportunities to be part of support groups for LGBTQ students. We have been able to respond to this by asking Professional Range Youth Workers for Chorley & South Ribble, to run various support groups with the focus of LGBTQ which we are naming Pride Groups. We are very fortunate to have been able to secure this, as this team has already been delivering a Heads up for Health program within school which has been hugely successful with our students.

The groups will take two forms. There will be some groups that will run for 1 hour a week over a six-week period until the summer break. Students attending this have an expressed interest in this in a form we conducted inviting any students. This may not mean that the students identify as LGBTQ, they may have chosen to be part of the group as they are exploring how they would like to identify, but they may have also chosen to be part of the group as they want to learn more, are passionate about LGBTQ rights or want to be able to support others. We are not questioning their motivation, but providing a safe and supportive environment in which they can discuss ideas with trained professionals and peers that may be in a similar situation.

There will also be a lunchtime drop in open to all students. This may be for a student who just wants to ask questions or learn more. They may also choose to use the space to be creative and design the Pride Flags that they will use in our Pride March on the 23rd June (more details to follow).

We are sure that our parents will be supportive of any students who have expressed that they would like to access any of these opportunities. You may want to have a conversation with your child if you think they may want to engage. If you think your child might identify as LGBT or questioning their sexuality, it's important not to pressure or rush them into talking to you. The best thing you can do is to create a supportive environment at home, by giving them space to share their feelings, so that they feel comfortable talking to you.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact enquiries@wellfieldacademy.org FAO Mrs L Park.

Yours Faithfully

L Park

Mrs L Park
Assistant Headteacher Progress and Intervention