



**Tredington Primary School**  
**Homophobic, Biphobic and Transphobic (HBT) bullying**

**We aim to develop in our children a passion for learning; strong moral, social and cultural values; a hard working 'Can do' attitude; the ability to communicate with others clearly and a desire to explore and understand the world around them.**

**Our school mission statement is:**

**Friends learning together.**

**Explore, create and share.**

**Date of Last Review: November 2019**

**Date of Approval: December 2019**

**Policy agreed by Tredington Primary School governing body in December 2019**

**Date for Next Review: October 2020**

**This Policy will be reviewed at least annually**

## **What is HBT language?**

HBT language is unacceptable language which is, unfortunately, commonplace in schools and other education settings. 99% of gay pupils hear homophobic remarks, such as 'poof', 'lezza', 'tranny' or 'bender' used in school. Almost all of young people have heard the word 'gay' used as an insult or to describe something negative. The term 'it's so gay' is often used to describe something as uncool, bad or wrong. The young people using this language may not realise what they're saying is offensive or consider it HBT language. Often, it is ignored or dismissed as 'banter'. This is completely unacceptable. (Barnados.org.uk 2018)

## **HBT bullying in Primary schools:**

The 'Teacher's Report 2014' found that 45% of primary school teachers say children in their schools experience homophobic bullying and 70% of primary school teachers hear homophobic language in school.

## **Who experiences HBT bullying?**

- Children who are thought to be 'different' in some way
- Boys who don't 'act like boys'
- Boys who don't play sports
- Girls who don't 'act like girls'
- Girls who do play sports
- Children who work hard in class or those who underachieve
- Children who aren't 'part of the gang'
- Children who have gay family members and friends.

## **The effects of HBT language:**

Mark , eight, explains that because he has gay parents "when people say 'gay' ... I feel worse than other people." (Stonewall, Different families 2010).

45% of LGBT pupils are bullied for being LGB at school (64% of trans pupils). 54% of bullied LGBT pupils feel that HBT bullying has had a negative effect on their plans for future education. 61% of LGB pupils have self-harmed and 81% of trans pupils have self-harmed. 22% of LGB pupils have attempted to take their own life, with 70% thinking about suicide. 45% of trans pupils have attempted to take their own life, with 92% thinking about suicide.

Statistics from Stonewall training 2018.

## **Tredington Primary Schools response to HBT bullying:**

At Tredington Primary school all staff have been trained on LGBT equality and diversity, HBT bullying and how to respond to this. As a school we teach and promote discussions of different families, LGBT Relationship and Sex Education (RSE) and British values. We have a zero tolerance policy on any HBT language and staff use the

HBT language school script to respond to any incidences, see below. Any incidences of HBT bullying will be reported and dealt with in line with the schools anti-bullying policy.

**School script for using the word 'gay' negatively**

Establish understanding: What did you mean when you used the word gay?

Explain meaning: Gay is a word we use to explain when people love someone the same gender as them. A man loving a man or a woman loving a woman. It isn't a nasty word to use against somebody or to say that something is not good.

Use empathy: I'm really disappointed to hear you use words that make other people feel bad.

School ethos: Remember at Tredington Primary we are Friends Learning Together, we work as a TEAM and are respectful of everyone.

This school script can be tailored to deal with any Homophobic, Biphobic and Transphobic (HBT) language in school. Simply use the prompts to adapt the responses.