

WPS Stonewall Champion

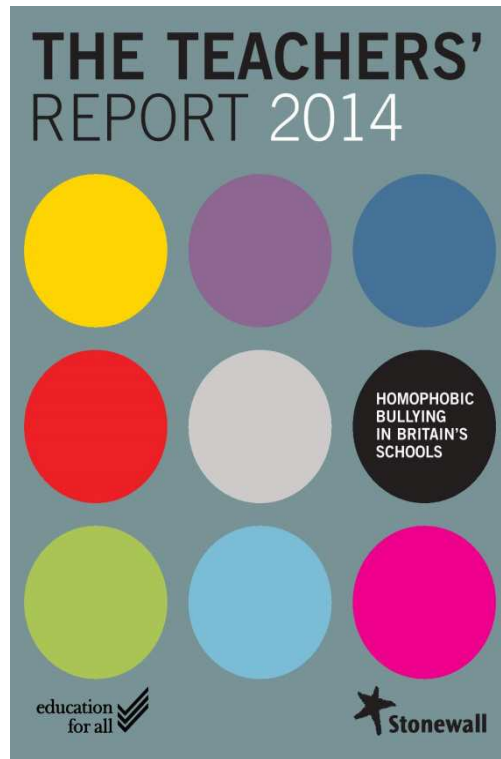
Woodlands Primary School

Inclusion For All

Challenging Prejudice

‘Together Everyone Achieves More!’

Homophobic Bullying in Primary Schools



- **More than two in five** primary school teachers say children in their schools experience homophobic bullying
- **Seven in ten** primary school teachers hear homophobic language in school
- **More than eight in ten** have had no specific training to prevent and tackle homophobic bullying

Who Experiences Homophobic 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
- work hard in class or underachieve
- aren't 'part of the gang'
- have gay family members and friends

What The Law Says

Schools have a legal duty to prevent and tackle all forms of bullying, including homophobic bullying . . .

- The Education and Inspections Act 2006 puts a duty on school governing bodies to promote the wellbeing of all children and young people in their care. This includes those who experience homophobic bullying.

New Government legislation means that schools now have to be proactive in preventing homophobic bullying and make all children and young people feel included . . .

- In its 2010 White Paper *The Importance of Teaching*, the coalition Government highlighted schools' responsibility to prevent and tackle homophobic bullying. In addition, The Public Duty of The Equality Act requires all public bodies including schools, academies and free schools to eradicate discrimination, advance equality and foster good relations – this means preventing and tackling homophobic bullying and language.

What The Law Says

All teachers should be aware of their role as part of a whole school approach to anti-bullying . . .

- From April 2012 all schools will be required to publish information about what they are doing to prevent and tackle all forms of bullying, including homophobic bullying.

School inspection also requires that schools take homophobic bullying seriously . . .

- From January 2012 the new Ofsted framework will place more focus on pupil achievement, the quality of teaching, the quality of the school leadership and management and behaviour and safety of pupils.

Why This Work Is So Important

- Children grow up in many different families
- Children should be able to talk about their families
- Children should be able to be themselves
- Homophobic bullying is an issue in primary schools and leads to more serious bullying down the line
- Fear of bullying can stop children from talking about their families and from doing what they enjoy
- All children need to be prepared for life in 21st century Britain

Resources



Celebrating difference
Challenging homophobia
in primary schools



Different families
The experiences of
children with lesbian
and gay parents



Stonewall

Next Steps

- Training for all staff delivered by Anne Vickers, Stonewall Champion
- Raising awareness:
 - Assemblies/PSHE
 - Drama – ‘Happily Ever After’ for Y6, October 13th 2014
 - Anti-bullying week in November – ‘Challenging Homophobia in Primary Schools’ – Andrew Moffat’s inspirational scheme of work (website)
 - Resources to promote diversity and inclusion
 - National recognition

At Woodlands, we pledge to safeguard children from harm by bullying and to create positive bully-free learning environments where every child is valued and enabled to make the most of their potential.