

Consider gender and sexuality perspectives to support the design of a safe and socially inclusive environment

A suggestion for implementing the strategy

'Design for all from the outset' from the

Guide: [ILEs](#)

Includes:

What makes a safe school?

Safety policies

Understand threats to wellbeing

Questions for reflection

Useful resources

Inclusive Education

From

Guide: [Planning innovative learning environments \(ILEs\)](#)

Strategy: [Design for all from the outset](#)

Suggestion: [Consider gender and sexuality perspectives to support the design of a safe and socially inclusive environment](#)

Date

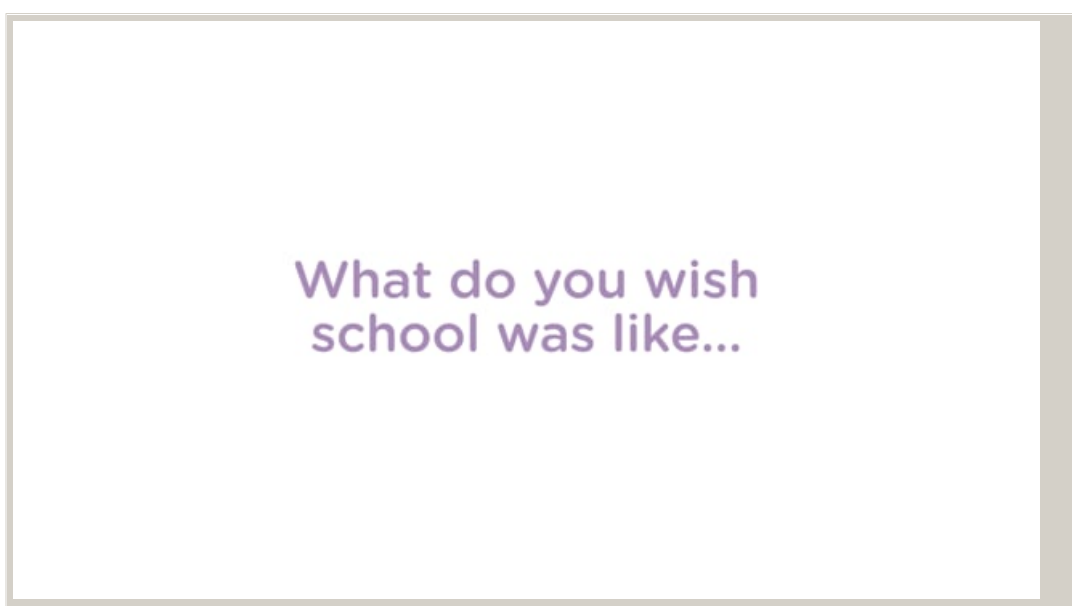
07 June 2026

Link

inclusive.tki.org.nz/guides/planning-innovative-learning-environments-iles/consider-gender-and-sexuality-perspectives-to-support-the-design-of-a-safe-and-socially-inclusive-environment

What makes a safe school?

Young people discuss what makes school safe or unsafe, and how to create a place where everyone belongs. They encourage schools to take a norm-challenging approach.



Video hosted on Vimeo <http://vimeo.com/138438744>

Closed Captions

Source:

[Inside Out – Rainbow Youth \(NZ\)](https://insideout.ry.org.nz/)
<https://insideout.ry.org.nz/ep5/>

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Safety policies

We have a policy of safety around identity and culture, and that includes gender. We feel strongly that every child deserves to feel safe in the school environment.

Board Chair

Source:

New Zealand Herald

https://www.nzherald.co.nz/nz/school-installs-toilet-for-transgender-pupil-aged-6/K6XFAOO27EAAJ5NKSZGJ35THIQ/?c_id=1&objectid=11639240

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Understand threats to wellbeing



Source:

Ministry of Education | Te Tāhuhu o te Mātauranga

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Questions for reflection

Supporting feelings of wellbeing and safety should be central to the design of an ILE.

Where are the areas in the school where students feel unsafe or where they would like to feel more safe? Have students map or photograph these places.

How can we repurpose bullying hotspots, such as hallways or walkways between buildings?

What kinds of spaces increase feelings of safety and wellbeing?

What kinds of signage demonstrate respect for gender diversity?

What changes can we make to school protocols and organisation, such as uniform choices and sports groupings, to increase options for students?

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Useful resources

Guidance on wellbeing and bullying prevention.



BullyingfreeNZ

This guide supports schools to create safe and positive learning environments. It aims to help prevent bullying behaviour and provides practical advice on what to do when bullying occurs. It also includes a section on whole-school approaches.

Publisher: BullyingFree NZ

[Visit website](#)

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