

# Develop inclusive classroom routines

A suggestion for implementing the strategy

'Develop an inclusive classroom and curriculum' from the Guide: [LGBTQIA+ students](#)

---

## **Includes:**

- Avoid grouping by gender
- Develop safe classroom protocols
- Review and revise binary approaches
- Alternatives to grouping by gender
- Take an inclusive approach to calling the roll
- Useful resources

Inclusive Education

From

Guide: [Supporting LGBTQIA+ students](#)

Strategy: [Develop an inclusive classroom and curriculum](#)

Suggestion: [Develop inclusive classroom routines](#)

Date

27 June 2026

Link

[inclusive.tki.org.nz/guides/supporting-lgbtqia-students/develop-inclusive-classroom-roles-routines-and-systems](https://inclusive.tki.org.nz/guides/supporting-lgbtqia-students/develop-inclusive-classroom-roles-routines-and-systems)

---

## Avoid grouping by gender

# THINK OUTSIDE THE BOXES



Source:

Gender Spectrum

<https://www.genderspectrum.org/>

[View full image \(20 KB\)](#)

## Inclusive Education

From

Guide: [Supporting LGBTQIA+ students](#)

Strategy: [Develop an inclusive classroom and curriculum](#)

Suggestion: [Develop inclusive classroom routines](#)

Date

27 June 2026

Link

[inclusive.tki.org.nz/guides/supporting-lgbtqia-students/develop-inclusive-classroom-roles-routines-and-systems](https://inclusive.tki.org.nz/guides/supporting-lgbtqia-students/develop-inclusive-classroom-roles-routines-and-systems)

---

# Develop safe classroom protocols

Review classroom systems to ensure there is a consistent message that no bullying or harassment will be allowed.

Let all students know that they are protected in the classroom.

Support students by:

- knowing your school's anti-bullying policy and communicating this to all students
- responding quickly to any homophobic, biphobic, or transphobic comments and harassment
- developing confidential classroom systems that allow students to give feedback, share information, or seek help when needed
- recording gender- and sexuality-based harassment in the school's harassment log
- working with all learners to develop and construct classroom expectations and ways of working that respect everyone.

## Inclusive Education

From

Guide: [Supporting LGBTQIA+ students](#)

Strategy: [Develop an inclusive classroom and curriculum](#)

Suggestion: [Develop inclusive classroom routines](#)

Date

27 June 2026

Link

[inclusive.tki.org.nz/guides/supporting-lgbtqia-students/develop-inclusive-classroom-roles-routines-and-systems](https://inclusive.tki.org.nz/guides/supporting-lgbtqia-students/develop-inclusive-classroom-roles-routines-and-systems)

---

# Review and revise binary approaches

Consider how you can move away from binary norms as a feature of your teaching.

Classrooms often reinforce perceptions of sex and gender as binary through:

- identifying “boys” and “girls” activities
- using gendered systems for choosing groups or lining up students
- providing only male and female tick boxes
- using gendered systems for seating arrangements in classrooms and assemblies
- arranging students by gender for class photos.

[Inclusive Education](#)

From

Guide: [Supporting LGBTQIA+ students](#)

Strategy: [Develop an inclusive classroom and curriculum](#)

Suggestion: [Develop inclusive classroom routines](#)

Date

27 June 2026

Link

[inclusive.tki.org.nz/guides/supporting-lgbtqia-students/develop-inclusive-classroom-roles-routines-and-systems](https://inclusive.tki.org.nz/guides/supporting-lgbtqia-students/develop-inclusive-classroom-roles-routines-and-systems)

---

## Alternatives to grouping by gender

Offer options that support belonging.

When grouping students, consider:

- grouping students by year group
- using birthdays, the initial letters of names, or numbering off
- inviting students to make their own choices.

Inclusive Education

From

Guide: [Supporting LGBTQIA+ students](#)

Strategy: [Develop an inclusive classroom and curriculum](#)

Suggestion: [Develop inclusive classroom routines](#)

Date

27 June 2026

Link

[inclusive.tki.org.nz/guides/supporting-lgbtqia-students/develop-inclusive-classroom-roles-routines-and-systems](https://inclusive.tki.org.nz/guides/supporting-lgbtqia-students/develop-inclusive-classroom-roles-routines-and-systems)

---

## Take an inclusive approach to calling the roll



Source:

Ministry of Education | Te Tāhuhu o te Mātauranga

[View full image \(3.8 MB\)](#)

## Inclusive Education

From

Guide: [Supporting LGBTQIA+ students](#)

Strategy: [Develop an inclusive classroom and curriculum](#)

Suggestion: [Develop inclusive classroom routines](#)

Date

27 June 2026

Link

[inclusive.tki.org.nz/guides/supporting-lgbtqia-students/develop-inclusive-classroom-roles-routines-and-systems](https://inclusive.tki.org.nz/guides/supporting-lgbtqia-students/develop-inclusive-classroom-roles-routines-and-systems)

---

## Useful resources



### Ten ways to challenge gender stereotypes in the classroom

Read time: 14 min

Ten ideas teachers can use to create class environments that encourage students to think of themselves as individuals, rather than editing their choices through a gender filter.

Publisher: Let Toys Be Toys – For Girls And Boys

[Visit website](#)

This information was downloaded/printed from the Ministry of Education's website "Inclusive Education". Except where otherwise noted it is Crown Copyright 2018.

Information on the Inclusive Education website is regularly updated so we recommend you check the website version of this information to ensure it remains current.