

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

Avoid grouping by gender

THINK OUTSIDE THE BOXES



Source:

Gender Spectrum

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

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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.

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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.

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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.

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Take an inclusive approach to calling the roll



Source:

Ministry of Education | Te Tāhuhu o te Mātauranga

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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](#)

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