

Support and resource sexuality and gender education

A suggestion for implementing the strategy 'Design inclusive school-wide systems and processes' from the Guide: [LGBTQIA+ students](#)

Includes:

- Align policies to sexuality education guidelines
- Identify areas for discussion
- Offer as a subject option at all levels
- Develop community consultation cycle
- Review current approach
- Useful resources

Inclusive Education

From

Guide: [Supporting LGBTQIA+ students](#)

Strategy: [Design inclusive school-wide systems and processes](#)

Suggestion: [Support and resource sexuality and gender education](#)

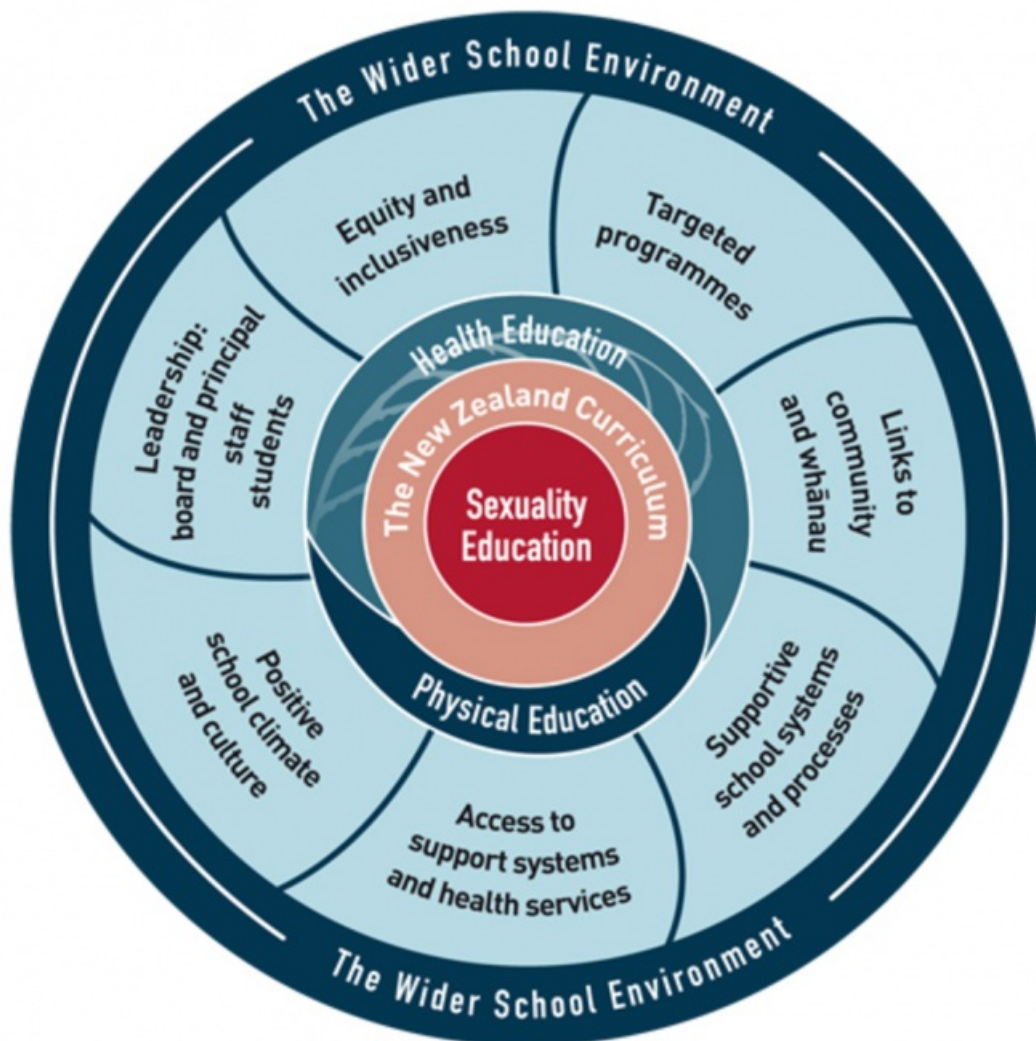
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inclusive.tki.org.nz/guides/supporting-lgbtqia-students/support-and-resource-sexuality-and-gender-education

Align policies to sexuality education guidelines



Source:

Ministry of Education | Te Tāhuhu o te Mātauranga

<https://parents.education.govt.nz/primary-school/learning-at-school/sexuality-education/>

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Identify areas for discussion

Create opportunities for students to investigate and explore:

- ✓ healthy relationships in multiple contexts
- ✓ expressing feelings and emotions
- ✓ supporting the wellbeing of friends and peers
- ✓ communication
- ✓ questioning messages related to gender, sexuality, and diversity
- ✓ identity and beliefs
- ✓ rights and responsibilities
- ✓ future dreams and goals
- ✓ physical and emotional development
- ✓ sexual and gender diversity
- ✓ human reproduction
- ✓ human rights
- ✓ consent
- ✓ choice and agency in relationships
- ✓ access to support and health care
- ✓ questioning and discussing gender and sexual stereotypes and norms, i.e. heteronormativity (assumptions of a monosexual heterosexual society)
- ✓ risks and issues in online and social media environments.

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Offer as a subject option at all levels

Develop a school-wide, shared approach when considering how sexuality can be taught across and within a range of subject areas.

To support gender and sexuality diverse students, ensure that health is a subject option at all levels in the school, especially at senior levels when relationships are more likely.

It is recommended that all students engage in sexuality education in years 11-13. This should not be limited to students completing NCEA courses and standards in health education.

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Develop community consultation cycle



Source:

[Enabling e-Learning](#)

<https://elearning.tki.org.nz/Leadership/Strategic-thinking-roadmap/Engaging-with-parents>

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Review current approach

Common characteristics of successful sexuality education programmes include:

- ✓ respect for the diverse values and beliefs of students and of the community
- ✓ recognition of the physical, social, emotional, and spiritual dimensions of sexuality
- ✓ inclusion of students' perspectives and requests
- ✓ regular planning and review of sexuality programmes
- ✓ consultation with students about content and approach
- ✓ up-to-date resources that are appropriate and modified to meet the needs of students
- ✓ committed, confident teachers who are provided with LGBTQIA+ professional development opportunities
- ✓ respect for different cultural perspectives
- ✓ the use of assessment data, including student self-assessment, to review programme implementation
- ✓ an environment where students feel safe to ask questions
- ✓ an environment where there is a good rapport between teachers and students
- ✓ a strong culture of school-wide respect
- ✓ access to effective support networks for students.

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Useful resources



Sexuality education: Information for parents, families, and whānau

Read time: 4 min

This pamphlet summarises key points about current sexuality education in New Zealand schools.

[Visit website](#)

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