

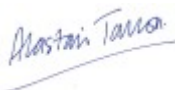


Dear Colleague,

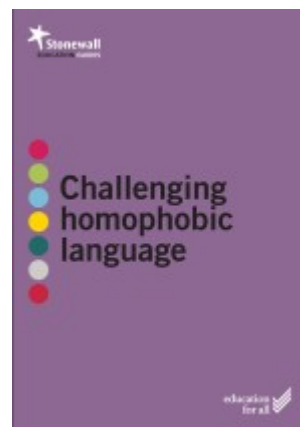
The start of the new academic year is always a busy time. Pupils returning to school, and those joining new schools, will want to settle in quickly and feel that they are in a safe place to learn. We currently work with many local authorities and schools in supporting them to prevent and tackle homophobic bullying. If you are a school or local authority interested in working on these issues, please [email](#) us. We would love to hear from you.

Anti-Bullying Week will be taking place 14-18 November, and this year's theme is 'stop and think - words can hurt'. This provides a brilliant opportunity to talk about homophobic language, so look out for resources and ideas on how to celebrate Anti-Bullying Week in school on the Stonewall website.

I hope you have a great term.



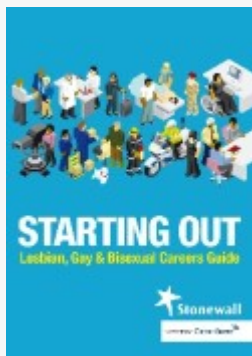
Alastair Tallon,  
Education Director



Check out our Education Guide, *Challenging homophobic language* this Anti-Bullying Week

## News

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**Talent Programme**  
Stonewall's first ever [Talent Programme](#) for young people still studying or in their first few years of work, took place last week. The highly successful

programme gave 36 lesbian, gay and bisexual participants the opportunity to explore their ambitions and career choices, and reflect on the positive impact their sexual orientation could have on these. One delegate said, 'I've learnt that being myself makes me more able to meet my full potential.'

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### **New Education Champions**

A special welcome to our newest [Education Champions](#), Lincolnshire County Council and Warwickshire County Council, who bring the total number of Education Champions to 53. We look forward to working with them over the coming year.

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### **It Gets Better... Today**

John Yates-Harold, Deputy Head of Jenny Hammond Primary School in Waltham Forest has recorded a video for Stonewall's 'It Gets Better... Today' campaign. Click [here](#) to watch it. For more information about recording your own message, email [itgetsbettertoday@stonewall.org.uk](mailto:itgetsbettertoday@stonewall.org.uk)

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## Coming up

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### **Starting Out careers guide launch**

*Starting Out* is the UK's only resource profiling gay-friendly employers. The [launch](#), supported by Square Peg Media, takes place 6.30-8.30 on 20 October at the Grand Connaught Rooms, London. Students and recent graduates are invited to come along for drinks and networking.

## Get involved

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### **Are you a parent governor?**

Stonewall is looking for parent governors who have done positive work around tackling homophobia in schools to feature as case studies in a new Education Guide. Email [helena.see@stonewall.org.uk](mailto:helena.see@stonewall.org.uk) for more information.

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### **Information Service**

Stonewall's [Information Service](#) provides information on a range of topics from local LGB groups, homophobic bullying, hate crime, discrimination and Stonewall resources.

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[Donate to Stonewall](#)

[Donate](#) and become a friend.

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### **Social Media**



*Starting Out* is sponsored by Credit Suisse.

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### Parents and carers needed

Are you a parent or carer who cares about homophobic bullying? We are looking for parents and carers to attend a focus group and contribute to the planning of a new guide for schools on engaging with parents and carers in tackling homophobic bullying. We're keen to talk to both LGB and heterosexual parents, as well as parents of both LGB and heterosexual young people. For more information, contact [helena.see@stonewall.org.uk](mailto:helena.see@stonewall.org.uk)

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## Noticeboard

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### Review of PSHE

The Government is now [consulting](#) on the core body of knowledge that pupils need to learn through PSHE education and ways to improve the quality of teaching. This is a great opportunity to emphasise the importance of PSHE in preventing and tackling homophobic bullying.

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### Higher Education White Paper

The Government published its Higher Education White Paper, [Students at the Heart of the System](#). Stonewall will be submitting a response to the consultation to ensure any reforms take the needs of LGB students into account. Visit our University Guide 2012 for LGB prospective students at [www.gaybydegree.org.uk](http://www.gaybydegree.org.uk)

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### Ofsted consultation

Ofsted is consulting on inspection of education and training in England for learners over the age of 16 (not including school sixth forms or higher education). We'll be looking to ensure that this takes into account homophobic bullying and the needs of LGB young people. Click [here](#) to find out more and have your say.

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