

# SCHOOLS OUT



Working for equality of lesbian, gay, bisexual and trans people in education since 1974  
BM Schools Out! National, London, WC1N 3XX [www.schools-out.org.uk](http://www.schools-out.org.uk)

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## BEING A MEMBER OR AFFILIATE OF 'SCHOOLS OUT!' GIVES YOU ACCESS TO RESOURCES INCLUDING:

- 1 Quarterly newsletter which links you in to all members
- 2 Quality support to on a variety of issues on the phone or via email
- 6 Access to Members only space on the Schools OUT Blog

## BEING A MEMBER OR AN AFFILIATE OF 'SCHOOLS OUT!' EMPOWERS US TO

- 1 Research, debate and stimulate curriculum development on LGBT issues and other relevant areas such as PHSE, citizenship, Healthy School Partnerships etc.
- 2 Campaign on lesbian, gay, bisexual and trans issues as they affect education and those in education
- 3 Respond to numerous media requests for information, quotes and interviews
- 4 Respond to the various government and DCSF consultations
- 5 Run 3 websites which are updated regularly and contain extensive resources: [www.schools-out.org.uk](http://www.schools-out.org.uk)  
[www.lgbthistorymonth.org.uk](http://www.lgbthistorymonth.org.uk) and [www.adayinhand.com](http://www.adayinhand.com)
- 3 Run an Annual Conference where LGBT teachers and educationalists from all over the country are brought together to share best practice and run workshops

**Schools OUT instigated LGBT History Month, which is an annual event held every FEBRUARY and A Day in Hand – A MONTHLY campaign aimed to inspire and support same-sex couples to hold hands in public And the classroom a site to support all teachers to combat all forms of prejudice particularly homophobia and transphobia with a methodology and lesson plans**

Full membership runs from February-February, we run a graduated cost system for those joining throughout the year. **STUDENTS CAN JOIN FOR FREE!** All other rates are as follows (individual/national organisations/local organisations): 1<sup>st</sup> Jan\* – 31<sup>st</sup> March £20/£200/£50; 1<sup>st</sup> April -30<sup>th</sup> June £15/£150/£35; 1<sup>st</sup> July – 30<sup>th</sup> Sept £10/£100/£25; 1<sup>st</sup> Oct – 31<sup>st</sup> Dec £5/£50/£15. \*Members who join in January will be charged the FULL membership rate and their membership will run to the following February. Preferred payment method is BACS transfer or direct debit, although you may pay by cheque if you wish – **direct debits must only be set up for the full membership fee to be paid annually on 1<sup>st</sup> February until cancelled.** If wishing to set up a DD and joining mid year, you may do a BACS transfer/cheque for the appropriate amount to take your membership through until the following February *and* set the DD up for the full amount to be taken on 1<sup>st</sup> Feb annually, please notify us if you do this. Members who pay by DD will have their membership renewed automatically each February; all other members will be contacted via email in January regarding renewal.

**To join or affiliate to Schools OUT, please email the following information to [schools-outmembership@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:schools-outmembership@hotmail.co.uk)**

Type of member: individual/student/national organisation/local organisation; organisation name; (contact) name; postal address; email address; phone number(s); payment date, amount and method (Cheque/BACS transfer and/or direct debit). Please transfer your payment/set up direct debit to the following account: **Schools OUT, sort code 72-00-05; A/C 88161403.** If paying by cheque please send to - BM SCHOOLS OUT, LONDON WC1N 3XX together with a note detailing when you sent your membership request to the membership secretary.

### Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans people are

black, white, dual heritage, daughters,

sons, aunts, mothers, sisters, brothers, fathers, uncles, grand fathers, grand mothers, friends, colleagues, workers, unwaged, students, teachers, customers, disabled, able-bodied Jewish, Hindu, Sikh, Muslim, Christian, living in both rural and urban areas, of all religions and none, old & young, women & men, from every political perspective.

# SCHOOLS OUT

WORKING FOR EQUALITY IN EDUCATION for LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL AND TRANS PEOPLE

## Mission Statement

Equality does not come through legislation and regulation alone. It also requires a change of culture – the culture of our society and, more particularly, the culture of our schools and colleges. Schools OUT seeks to address issues of equality through both the legislative/regulative and cultural routes as they mutually reinforce each other.

### Schools and colleges.

Lesbian, gay, bisexual and trans people have been routinely excluded from school and college curricula. Our lives and achievements are either ignored or distorted into a false image of who we were/are. From this comes the ignorance that allows for the stereotyping on which prejudice and negative discrimination depend. Homophobic bullying is a direct consequence of this carefully engineered ignorance.

All young people believe they “know” some things about LGBT people. This “truth” is mainly derived from the stereotyping that abounds in our society. For those young people who have to relate to the reality of LGBT people’s lives – those that are LGBT, are questioning their gender identity, are presumed by others to be LGBT, or have LGBT family or friends – such stereotyping and distortion is particularly harmful. However it diminishes the knowledge and therefore the understanding of ALL students.

### We therefore seek:

1. Government guidance for the creation of inclusive curricula appropriate to age and ability of students and both within and outside the National Curriculum;
2. Training for all teachers and student teachers in initial teacher training, GTP and other routes to qualified teacher status on the issues and how to explore these issues through the curriculum and training for all support staff;
3. School and college inspection to include proper consideration of the inclusivity of the delivered curriculum as based upon above guidance;
4. The development of support for LGBT staff and governors, as it is frequently from them that good practice is initiated and developed, and recognition of the positive role played by those of us who choose to be open about their LGBT status;
5. Training on the Employment Regulations (Sexual Orientation) and their full implications for staff, schools, colleges and local authorities;
6. To support schools, colleges and their staff in developing equal opportunity and anti-bullying policy and practice;
7. Support for the celebration within schools, colleges and universities and society as a whole of LGBT History Month (see below).

Without work to progress these issues homophobia and other forms of prejudice and discriminatory practice will continue to abound and equality will remain elusive.

As a tool to encourage this culture change within both schools and colleges and society as a whole, Schools OUT initiated **LGBT History Month UK** ([www.lgbthistorymonth.org.uk](http://www.lgbthistorymonth.org.uk)) in February 2005, to be celebrated annually. We therefore seek:

1. Endorsement of the Month and its aims from the widest range of institutions, organisations and individuals and active involvement by the above in its development and celebration;
2. Funding to maintain and develop the work.

In 2009 Schools OUT also launched **A Day In Hand** – A monthly campaign aimed to inspire and support same-sex couples to hold hands in public [www.adayinhand.com](http://www.adayinhand.com)

**Schools OUT will continue to campaign, educate and lobby on these issues and provide support to LGBT teachers and any one else who needs it, in eradicating homophobia, transphobia and institutional heterosexism.**

**BM SCHOOLS OUT! LONDON WC1N 3XX**

[chairs@schools-out.org.uk](mailto:chairs@schools-out.org.uk)

[www.schools-out.org.uk](http://www.schools-out.org.uk)

Schools OUT Conference and AGM is always the first Saturday of February,  
every year at The Drill Hall, London