

DL10: Working with parents and carers

Have you communicated and consulted with parents/carers about changes to policies relating to homophobic bullying?

Yes

No

Parents/carers are less likely to be resistant to strategies to prevent homophobic bullying if they've been involved in plans.

Do parents/carers understand that they have a responsibility to stop their child bullying?

Yes

No

Parents/carers need to understand that they have a role to play in responding to homophobic bullying.

Do parents/carers understand how to spot signs that their child is being bullied?
Do they understand that homophobic bullying does not necessarily mean their child is gay?

Yes

No

Parents/carers report incidents of bullying but may not know how to talk to a school about homophobic bullying. An open dialogue between parents/carers and teachers/staff will encourage reporting.

Do parents/carers know how to complain about homophobic bullying? Do they know how to raise issues with the school?

Yes

No

If parents/carers don't know who, what and how to report incidents, a situation may continue and get worse. Parents/carers must feel confident in school processes.

Do all parents/carers feel able to be involved in school life? Are messages home inclusive? Do you talk about "parents" instead of assuming all pupils have a "mum or a dad"? Can gay parents get involved?

Yes

No

If gay parents/carers think they will be treated differently, they are less likely to be involved in school life. Parents/carers and schools need to work together.

Do parents/carers know where they can find support and information if their child is gay? Do they feel confident supporting their child?

No

Parents/carers can respond negatively if their child is gay, sometimes even making them leave home. If they are supportive, pupils are more likely to tell about homophobic bullying.