

31st January 2022

## LGBTQ+ History Month

Dear Student and Parents / Guardians,

This year Plympton Academy, as part of Thinking Schools Academy Trust (TSAT), will be taking part in LGBTQ+ History Month which runs throughout February. The month aims to promote tolerance and raise awareness of the prejudices faced by lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people.

There will be a variety of activities and events taking place in the academy throughout the month, including:

- Displays of LGBTQ+ role models in each subject area
- Displays of books by LGBTQ+ authors in the LRC
- PSHE sessions on the importance of role models
- Assemblies from Heads of Year

On Friday 11th February we will be taking part in the TSAT wide 'True Colours' day which celebrates everyone's individual identities. On this day, students and staff can wear non-uniform in return for a £1 donation with all money raised donated to the 'Just Like Us' charity which supports LGBTQ+ young people across the country. Money will be collected during Tutor Time Reading or PM tutorial. If students choose to wear non-uniform, then their clothes should be suitable to take part in any PE / Performing Arts / Practical lessons and should be suitable to wear in school.

We are encouraging staff and students to wear the colours of the Progress Pride flag which was developed in 2018 by non-binary American artist and designer Daniel Quasar (who uses xe/xyr pronouns). The Progress Flag is based on the iconic rainbow flag from 1978, and the redesign celebrates the diversity of the LGBTQ community and calls for a more inclusive society. The flag's colours represent different aspects of LGBT communities, but the rainbow is also a symbolic representation of the variety of human expression, in all its hues and shades. The colours have the following meanings:



- Red: Life
- Orange: Healing; fun and celebration
- Yellow: New ideas and thoughts
- Green: Prosperity
- Blue: Serenity
- Violet: Spirit
- Black / Brown: People of colour
- White / Blue / Pink: Trans

Additionally on Friday 11th February, there will be a cake sale and photobooth in the LRC. If students would like to donate any baked goods for the sale, for COVID hygiene reasons, we would prefer these to be shop bought / wrapped and they can be left in HoY offices from Monday 7th until Thursday 10th February.

If you have any questions about the activities, please contact the relevant Head of Year in the first instance.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Ian Hartley  
Assistant Principal