

How to be a Trans* ally in the classroom

WHAT DOES TRANS* MEAN?

- A person whose gender differs from the sex they were assigned at birth
- This includes trans men, trans women and people who do not fit into this gender binary
- It is a natural part of the human experience and should never be treated as an illness

APPROPRIATE LANGUAGE

- Use trans* or transgender to refer to transgender people
- 'Transgender' is an adjective - do not use it as a verb or noun
- Avoid gendered language as much as possible - use "everyone", not "ladies and gentlemen"

INAPPROPRIATE QUESTIONS

- Do not ask for their "real name" - the name they give you is their real name
- Trans people do not owe more details about their life than non-trans people
- Ask yourself if you would ask a non-trans person the same question

JUST ASK (ABOUT PRONOUNS)

- Make it a habit to ask your students what pronouns they wish to use
- Practice using pronouns, especially ones you may be unused to
- If you make a mistake, say sorry, correct yourself and move on - it's not about you

COMING OUT

- If students come out to teaching staff to let them know their name is different from their legal name, make sure to use the right name
- Do not out students in front of other students or other teaching staff
- If you make a mistake, same as with pronouns, just say sorry and move on



For alternative formats and more resources, scan here! or go to https://linktr.ee/further_resources

