

# Championing Youth Voice This LGBT+ History Month



## WHY DO YOU THINK THE ONLINE WORLD IS IMPORTANT FOR LGBT+ YOUNG PEOPLE?

- ★ "You can find your own communities within the online space"
- ★ "It's like a safe space to be who you want to be"
- ★ "It gives a chance for people to express themselves"



## WHAT CHALLENGES DO YOU THINK LGBT+ YOUNG PEOPLE CURRENTLY FACE ONLINE?

- ★ "There can be quite a lot of harassment [...] I think there is still a lot of hate and everything online."
- ★ "Because of the anonymous aspects of the internet, it's a lot easier to spread hate. So there's a lot of hatred and that oppresses LGBTQ people."

## HOW CAN YOUNG PEOPLE BE ALLIES TO THE LGBT+ COMMUNITY IN ONLINE SPACES?

- ★ "Actively participate in positivity online, as opposed to negativity, especially in comment sections. Don't be a bystander."
- ★ "Sometimes, homophobia is dismissed as just banter. It would be good to educate people online. Because a lot of times it's said 'jokingly', but can also hurt people."



## WHAT MORE CAN BE DONE TO MAKE THE ONLINE WORLD SAFER FOR THE LGBT+ COMMUNITY?

- ★ "Most social media does pride campaigns during June, for example, but sometimes the problem is that a lot of people aren't very well informed on the history, and that could be something really useful."
- ★ "I think a lot of companies don't really crack down on removing hate speech or enforcing rules against it"

## HOW DO YOU THINK TEACHERS AND SCHOOLS CAN SUPPORT LGBT+ YOUNG PEOPLE WITH ONLINE ISSUES?

- ★ "To the person that's instigating the hate, tell them why that's a problem, and educate and mentor them as to why they can't say the things they're saying, and then support the person that's faced discrimination"
- ★ "Voicing the fact that you are someone they can go to for support"



## HOW DO YOU THINK PARENTS AND CARERS CAN SUPPORT LGBT+ YOUNG PEOPLE WITH ONLINE ISSUES?

- ★ "If a young person knows that their parents have that awareness and acceptance, they're much more likely to confide in them"
- ★ "Show that they're supportive from the get go. not just of their children, but of LGBTQ causes. Interact with gay communities in the online space, because that way everybody's learning together."