

THE ARNEWOOD
SCHOOL

LGBTQ+

NEWSLETTER

The Arnewood School nurtures an incredibly diverse and inclusive community of students and staff. We have an LGBTQ+ society and a range of outstanding PSHE programmes that aim to foster a safe and supportive environment for all.

Arnewood recently celebrated LGBTQ+ History Month in February. The month

aims to raise the visibility and status of LGBTQ+ individuals who have inspired significant change, yet their stories have not been lost due to the stigma that has been attached to their sexuality and/or gender identity.

As a gesture of inclusion and solidarity of all students The Arnewood School raised the pride flag over the campus on 16 February.



Glossary of terms:

Ace/asexual: someone who experiences little to no sexual attraction and/or sexual desire.

Bi/bisexual: someone who has romantic and/or sexual attraction towards more than one gender.

Gay: refers to a man who has romantic and/or sexual attraction to men. Some women may prefer to use gay to describe themselves rather than using lesbian. Some non-binary people may also use this term.

Genderqueer: an umbrella term for a gender which may fall outside of, or fall in between, or fluctuate between the binary gender categories of woman and man.

Lesbian: refers to a woman who has romantic and/or sexual attraction towards other women. Some non-binary people may also use this term.

Intersex: a term used to describe people whose anatomy and physiology differ from what society describes as male and female.

Non-binary: an umbrella term for people whose gender identity fall outside of the woman and man gender binary.

Queer: historically this has been a word been used as a slur. This word was been reclaimed in the 1980s and is used in different ways, e.g. as an umbrella term for people who identify as LGBTQIA+; when an individual prefers a broader term to describe themselves rather than specific identities.

Pansexual: someone who is romantically and/or sexually attracted towards others and is not limited by sex or gender.

Trans/transgender: an umbrella term to describe people whose gender is not the same as the sex they were assigned at birth.

What is LGBTQ+

History Month:

LGBT History Month is an annual month-long observance of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender history, and the history of the gay rights and related civil rights movements. LGBT History Month aims to recognise the sacrifices made by the community which have led to historic milestones like the decriminalisation of homosexuality, in 1967.

In Hungary and the United Kingdom, it is observed during February; in the UK this coincides with a major celebration of the 2003 abolition of Section 28. Section 28 was a series of laws across Britain that prohibited the promotion of homosexuality. LGBTQ+ History Month first took place in February 2005.

In 1954, The Wolfenden report investigated the several arrests that were made of high-profile men for homosexual offences, such as Lord Montagu of Beaulieu, Michael Pitt-Rivers, and Alan Turing, to see whether or not homosexuality ought to remain an offence in British law. By the end of 1954, 1,069 men were in prison for such offences. The report, which was published in 1957, recommended that "homosexual behaviour between consenting adults in private should no longer be a criminal offence", and stated that "homosexuality cannot legitimately be regarded as a disease".

It was not until 1990 that the World Health Organisation [WHO] removed homosexuality from its list of mental-health conditions. Furthermore, it was not until 2017 that being transgender was removed from the WHO's list of mental illnesses.

A key part of LGBTQ+ History Month is remembering the Stonewall riots. These began in 1969 in the Greenwich Village neighbourhood of New York City, USA. The purpose was to protest the treatment of gay people in Cuba and US employment discrimination.

Still today, there are 69 countries that criminalise LGBTQ+ people. 11 of these countries still have the death penalty.

The Arnewood School is raising the visibility of the LGBTQ+ community so that we can speak for those that are still silenced.

Diversity Role Models (DRM) Workshop

The Arnewood School was pleased to welcome Diversity Role Models (DRM) to deliver a series of LGBTQ+ workshops to all our Year 10 students on 31 March and 1 April. This is just one of the events in the school calendar that reinforces ongoing work in making our community as inclusive and supportive as it can be.

The DRM workshops aim to create spaces where young people can explore difference and consider their role in creating a world where we all feel accepted. The DRM, LGBT+ or ally role models shared their lived experiences over a virtual platform. Their open sharing of personal experience builds the empathy of young people so that they can understand the (often unintended) impact of their language and actions. Students had the opportunity to ask questions and discuss subjects in a safe environment to further foster a culture of acceptance and support within the school.





The Gilbert Pride Flag

The History of the Pride Flag:

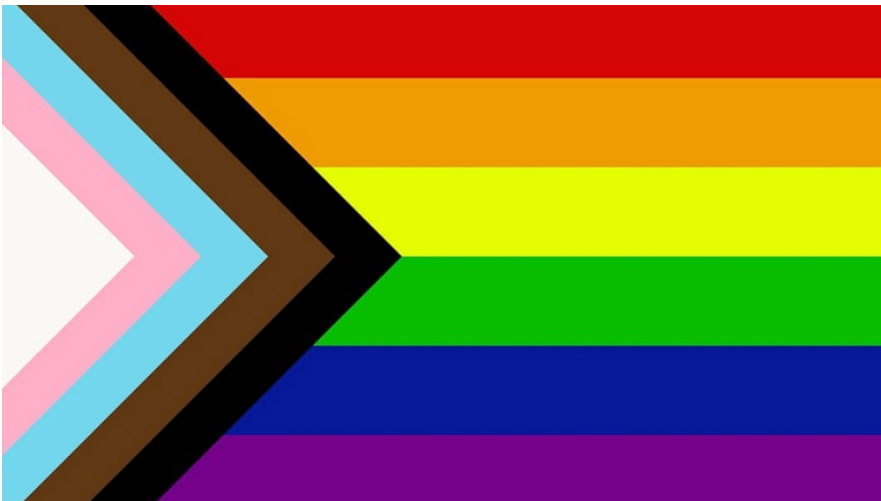
The first versions of the rainbow flag were flown on June 25, 1978, for the San Francisco Gay Freedom Day parade. Gilbert Baker and a team of volunteers had made them by hand, and now he wanted to mass-produce the flag for consumption by all.

After the November 27, 1978, assassination of openly gay San Francisco City Supervisor Harvey Milk, demand for the rainbow flag greatly increased. As Baker ramped up production of his version of the flag, he dropped the hot pink stripe because of the unavailability of hot-pink fabric.

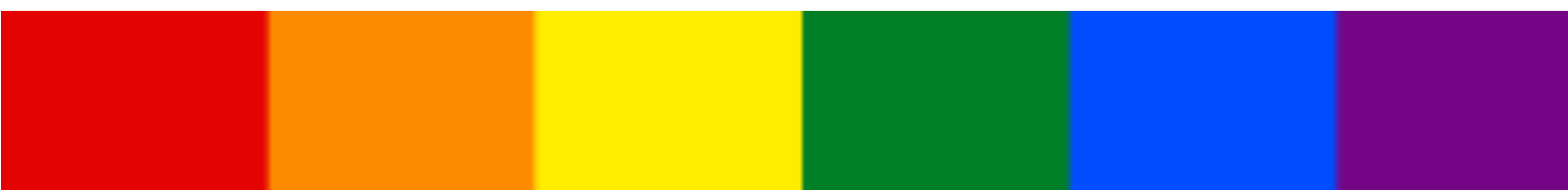


The Philadelphia Pride Flag
“More Colour More Pride”

The ‘progress pride flag’ is a re-interpretation of multiple iterations of the pride flag. The original ‘rainbow flag’ was created by Gilbert Baker in 1978 to celebrate members of the gay and lesbian political movement. It comprised eight coloured stripes stacked on top of each other to evoke a rainbow, a symbol of hope and freedom.



The Progress Pride Flag



An account of one of the LGBTQ+ society's favourite role models:

Céline Sciamma

Born in Pontoise, France

on 12 November 1978

Céline Sciamma is a screenwriter and director known for working on the films like Portrait of a Lady on Fire, Water Lilies and Tomboy. Her films are commonly based on the fluidity of gender and sexual identity of women and girls. She has contributed a substantial amount to discourse in cinema regarding the female gaze (The female gaze is a feminist theory term representing the gaze of the female spectator, character or director of an artistic work.)



Sciamma's career has been rather successful. She was nominated for a BAFTA for best film not in English in 2020. This is among 83 other nominations (51 of which she has won) including two wins at the Cannes film festival for the queer palm (best LGBT related film) and best screenplay.

She is also known for her activism against inequality in the film industry, in 2018 she co organised and attended the women's protest at the Cannes film festival that year, the protest was also attended by notable women in cinema including Cate Blanchett. She is also one of the founding members of the French branch of the 5050 by 2020 movement, she showed her support for the movement by wearing a pin to the premiere of Portrait of a lady on fire in 2019.

Sciamma 'came out' publicly in 2007 to the newspaper The Advocate. Later, in 2008, in an interview with Gomag concerning the article she said " I did it without knowing I was doing it. I was never 'in' to come out..."

**The LGBTQ+ society meets every Wednesday
in H90 with Miss Gain.**

Thank you for taking the time to read our newsletter.