

School Gender Support Plan

considerations for parents & caregivers



Whether your child attends a school with a strong history of providing an affirming environment for gender creative and trans students, or one that has no experience, you may need to become an advocate for your child. If you will be approaching your child's school to develop a Gender Support Plan, here are some suggestions:

- ▼ Talk with your child about what kinds of support they would like from the school. Find out if there any issues they are currently dealing with or anticipate will be a problem in the future. Discuss whether or not they would like to be part of the school meeting.
- ▼ Find out if the school or district has a [policy or procedure](#) in place to support gender creative and trans students.
- ▼ Connect with other parents of gender creative and trans students who are part of your school district.
- ▼ Identify a contact person you trust who can provide you with guidance about how systems work in your child's school or district. This might be a teacher, counsellor, administrator, diversity liaison, or GSA/QSA sponsor.
- ▼ Write down what supports you would like to have put in place and be prepared to explain why they are important for your child.
- ▼ If your child is connected with any professionals (e.g. counsellor or physician), consider having them write a letter detailing the kinds of support your child requires.
- ▼ Consider bringing a support person with you to the meeting.
- ▼ Your child's plan should address your child's unique needs. However, there are several issues that commonly come up in school plans. Review page 2 of this support tool for more details.

Some helpful web resources

- ▼ [Gender Spectrum: Gender Support Plan Document](#)
- ▼ [BC Government: Erase Discrimination](#)
- ▼ [British Columbia Teachers' Federation: LGBTQ2S+ School Policies and Regulations](#)
- ▼ [SOGI 123: SOGI-inclusive schools](#)
- ▼ [Trans Care BC: Queer Straight Alliance webpage](#)
- ▼ [Trans Rights BC: Legal rights of trans students in British Columbia](#)

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Below are a few elements to consider in a School Gender Support Plan. [Gender Spectrum](#) offers a detailed [School Gender Support Plan](#) template.

Student name:	Meeting date:
School:	Grade / Teacher:
1 Identification Names and pronouns to be used at school, on student records, in correspondence	
2 Confidentiality Procedure for maintaining confidentiality and privacy, reasons for disclosure of gender	
3 Safety Identification of a safe person/people and review of anti-harassment/bullying policies	
4 Washrooms and Changerooms Identification of appropriate options for washroom and changeroom use	
5 Dress Guidelines Review dress guidelines and accommodations	
6 Inclusive Learning Materials Review of available learning materials and resources for student, parent(s), and personnel	
7 Gender Inclusive Activities Identification of supports needed for participation in school and extracurricular activities	
8 Educator Training Review of required and optional trainings for school personnel	
Signatures:	▼ Child/Youth: ▼ Parent(s): ▼ School Representative(s):
Date of next review:	