



Auckland LGBTQIA+/MVPFAFF Fono: *Feedback Summary*

"I felt transphobia growing up – but I didn't know the term. Having a policy or even definitions up in a classroom will create talk."

Pacific young adult

Are the proposed areas important?

- All areas described as important but some need more specificity and more connection back to specific groups such as LGBTQIA+
- Attendees acknowledge there is discrimination towards LGBTQIA+ community, highlighting that calling out discrimination includes homophobia, transphobia, misogyny etc.
- Other issues raised: learners don't get literacy credits for learning Samoan in school. This learning needs to be recognised. If we want to see a thriving Pasifika community then kids should be able to speak their language in schools
- Note: LGBTQIA+ = MVPFAFF (Pacific LGBTQIA+)

"Kids go to school and give up their identity to learn English to get credits"

Pacific young adult

Is there something missing? What would you change?

- Ensuring non-Pacific teachers are skilled and competent at working with diverse learners
- Most commonly shared action: Need these skills embedded in teacher training and ongoing professional development, compulsory PD
- There should be a test during training to ensure teacher trainees have an open mind
- Schools aren't aware of the special funds from LGBTQIA+ support services and support for LGBTQIA+ from schools can feel more like a tick box exercise rather than genuinely caring and helpful
- Any resources given to schools should be backed up with accountability for whether or not they're being used to help students
- The impact of poor mental health on learning
- Instead of "change" the education system's definition of success, use the term "re-establish"
- Take an intersectional approach – gender, sexuality, body, socio-economic status, ethnicity
- Utilise Communities of Learning networks to strengthen inclusive environments
- Differentiate between NZ born and Island born

What questions do you have?

- How are educators being held accountable for racist attitudes?
- Where are policies and frameworks that support the stance of abolishing racial discrimination?
- Where is MoE in this conversation?
- All other questions ask how the proposed shifts will be achieved

"[We need a] Mandatory LGBTQIA+/MVPFAFF competency. Marked by leaders of our community."

What does success look like for you?

Top 5

Pacific LGBTQIA+ learners can access resources and support they need

There are no financial barriers to accessing education for Pacific learners and families

Pacific learners have the skills to succeed in the workforce

Pacific learners are accepted, understood, safe and valued for who they are

Pacific learners with disabilities can participate and are included in the entire education system and extra-curricular activities