

FOI Request - Gender Identity in Schools -  
101003394098

	Buckle High	Elgin Academy	Elgin High	Forres Academy	Keith Grammar	Lossiemouth High	Milne's High	Speyside High
1	Does the school inform parents or guardians as soon as a child expresses that he or she might be a different gender to their sex, or expresses a wish to change gender?	That depends on the circumstances and the views of the child	We work in partnership with parents but follow the Moray Council Transgender Guidance which states that it is not necessary to inform parents if a child is 16 if they don't consent.	No we encourage the young person to have this conversation with their parent and offer to support this.	The school recognises there is immediate need to inform parents or others (UNRC Article 16) and works with the young person and family.	No	This depends what age the child is and depends on the individual circumstances.	Only if the young person gives permission to do so.
2	Does the school operate a policy of self-ID for gender identity; in other words, whether they consider the gender of a child to be the gender that that child declares it to be?	Yes, depending on the circumstances and the young person's capacity to make that decision for themselves	We follow the Moray Council Transgender Guidance on gender identity so the child's gender identity would be respected.	Yes we listen to the child's wishes	The child's gender identity would be respected.	No	We would always do whatever we can to support a young person in making them feel safe and supported in school.	No such policy exists.
3	Who, if anyone, would the school consult before allowing a child to socially transition? Name the roles of the person and organisation contacted.	That depends on the circumstances and the views of the child	We would work in partnership with parents and the whole team around the child. This team would be determined by the individual needs of the child.	At present we follow the Gender Variance policy which is used in Highland in the absence of a Moray Council policy	This varies from child to child. If the child attends Child Planning/ LAC meetings then parents, along with multi-agencies (Team around the Child) would be aware	N/A	Information not held	This would be at the discretion of the young person.
4	Does the school allow a child who identifies as a different gender to their sex to:							
a)	Use toilets defined according to their new gender, rather than their biological sex?	That depends on the circumstances and the views of the child	Yes- these are all locked cubicles but we also give permission to use disabled access toilets.	All students have access to non-gender specific bathroom facilities	Unisex toilets are available	N/A	Most trans pupils feel more comfortable in a single cubicle toilet and they are shown where these are so they can use them	No requests received from a young person.
b)	Use changing rooms according to their new gender, rather than their biological sex?		This has not yet come up as an issue. There are separate changing facilities that can be used for any pupils with vulnerabilities.	We do not currently have change room use due to the size of the school	Private changing rooms are made available to pupils with new gender	N/A	Most trans pupils feel more comfortable in a single cubicle changing facility and they are shown where these are so they can use them	No requests received from a young person.
c)	Take part in sporting activities according to their new gender, rather than their biological sex?		This has not yet come up as an issue at Elgin Academy.	All PE is mixed ability and gender/sex	Pupils can select which group they are most comfortable with. At times we run sporting activities with an open category.	N/A	We have never had any pupils who would fall into this category	Our sporting activities are not based on gender.
5	Does the school require other children to refer to children who have socially transitioned by their new name and preferred pronouns?	Most young people are well able to manage this process themselves – it tends to be adults who have more difficulty here.	We expect all our young people to meet school expectations of Ready, Respectful, Safe.	We encourage all members of the school community to refer to a YP as they have chosen	Advised as per the wishes of the child	N/A	N/A	This would be at the discretion of the young person.
6	Which of the following ideas does the school teach:							
a)	That people have a gender identity that may be different from their biological sex	Yes	We don't instruct any of these ideas. When subjects like this are addressed in the curriculum it is through exploration of different thoughts, feelings, viewpoints, beliefs and perceptions.	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	We deliver the RSHP Programme as outlined by the Scottish Government.
b)	That some people or children may be 'born in the wrong body'	I don't think it would be taught from such a negative perspective.		No	We teach about all genders including transgender, non-binary, gender fluid	No	Yes	
c)	That a person who self-identifies as a man or a woman should be treated as a man or woman in all circumstances, even if this does not match their biological sex	Again, that is a very black and white statement for a very complex situation. We would be teaching about an individual's rights to identify with the gender – and that others should respect those views.		No	Yes	Yes	Question not worded in a way that can be answered	
7	Has the school, in the last 24 months, worked with an external provider (charity or commercial organisation) to provide lessons or resources on gender identity? If so, please give the names of these providers.	No	No	No	No	No	No	No