



Johnstone High School LGBT Charter Update June 2020

On behalf of the LGBT champion group I would like to share a wee update on our progress this year, and say a big **thank you** to everyone who has supported this! We are so grateful to all our amazing staff who have supported our journey, be it creating and delivering lessons, attending the coffee morning, or displaying flags and signs in their classrooms! Also to all the pupils taking part in positive discussions, being good allies, role models and kind people!

As you may know this year we signed up to **LGBT Youth Scotland's LGBT Charter for schools**. JHS has been doing lots of work on LGBT equality over the years, and we thought it was the right time to formalise this. So we signed up to the charter and committed ourselves to making our school a safe, welcoming and inclusive place for all young people. We decided to try and go straight for our silver award, and we have been busy throughout the year making sure we meet all the criteria to achieve this. After the summer holidays we will need to submit all our evidence to see how we've done.

Some of our highlights this year have been:

- **Training 40% of our school staff** - this was an amazing training session provided by LGBT Youth Scotland. We had the whole pastoral team as well as teachers from across every department, some of our Senior Management Team, office staff and canteen staff!
- We celebrated **LGBT History Month** with displays including launching our unique JHS LGBT signs, lessons in PSE and other subjects around the school.
- We celebrated **Purple Friday** with a packed out coffee morning. The baking was INCREDIBLE and our Umbrella club did an amazing job of organising it!
- We marked **IDAHOBIT** (international day against homo/bi/inter/transphobia) online with updates on social media and virtual lessons in social subjects.
- We've checked our school **policies** to make sure they are inclusive of LGBT people.
- We are currently updating our **school website** to make LGBT support really easy to find from home.
- We welcomed Miss Smith and Miss McFadden to JHS, and saw them take responsibility for supporting our **Umbrella Club** - what a team! The club has been well attended all year by LGBT pupils and allies. They have been actively involved in the work towards the LGBT charter, making video messages and writing letters to staff explaining why this work is so important, making displays, attending planning meetings and supporting each other. **The club are now active on Microsoft Teams - all pupils are welcome to join- just go onto teams and enter this code: fjf28as**

So now we need to reflect on what went well, and what we need to focus on next year once we've achieved our Silver award and work towards our Gold! Please **check your inboxes over the next week for a quick survey to help us with this.**

Stay safe, stay proud,
The JHS LGBT Champion Team

