

VOLUME 1 • APRIL 2020

FREEDOM SCHOOLS PROJECT

EMPOWERING LGBTQ+ EQUALITY IN EDUCATION



Hi everyone!

THINGS TO SEE:

FREEDOM ONLINE

TRANS DAY OF VISIBILITY

ACTIVITIES, GAMES AND FUN STUFF

> FREEDOM TOP TIPS

So, we know that times are a bit strange and uncertain for everyone. Your daily life has probably changed loads over the last few weeks, and that might feel rubbish.

We hope that we can help you to feel connected to your Freedom+ group, even if you can't see your friends everyday.

All of our services at OTR are running online at the minute - to find out more about Freedom and OTR, visit our website: www.otrbristol.org.uk



WHAT IS TRANS DAY OF VISIBILITY?

Trans Day of Visibility is a day to celebrate and support the trans, non binary and gender diverse community. It started in 2009, and takes place on March 31st every year.

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE TRANS?

A transgender person doesn't identify with the gender that they were assigned at birth. Some trans people choose to transition, and to change their name and their appearance, for example, so that their appearance better reflects their identity. Not all trans people choose to transition.

WHAT IS A TRANS ALLY?

A trans ally is a person who doesn't identify as trans themselves, but supports, respects and celebrates the trans community.



P.S: Want to use our profile badges? Find them on www.facebook.com/FreedomLGBTQ

ANAGRAMS: WHO ARE THESE FAMOUS TRANS PEOPLE?

1) AVIRST ZALNAAAB

A performer from Bristol, who recently toured with a show called Burgerz

2) IPLAR SHAYLE A trans woman from Liverpool, who was the first trans person to appear on the cover of Vogue magazine

3) LAIHMCE ILNOLD A doctor who lived in Bristol, and is believed to be the first trans man to medically transition

4) OFX SFIEHR Star of a Channel 4 documentary, founder of My Genderation

> 5) MEAJI NREAIS A famous youtuber - think biscuits!

6) RNEALVE XOC An actress who starred in 'Orange is the New Black'

> 7) SERSOFRPO ETSNPEH LWIHTTE A law professor and trans activist

8) SHRMAA P JONSHNO A trans woman of colour, who is thought to have started the Stonewall Riots

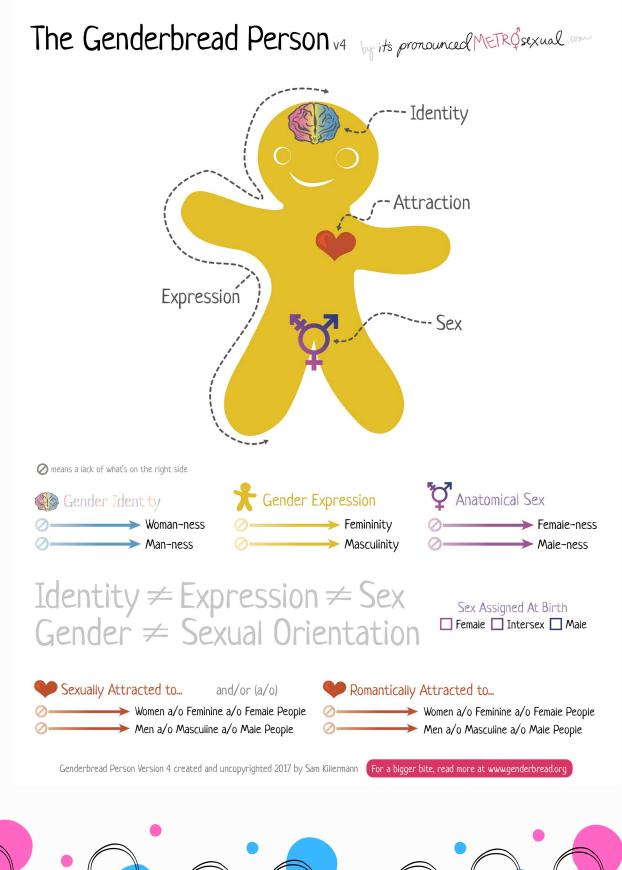
> 9) NAHNHA FGRA One of the highest ranking trans soldiers in the British Army

Answers on the last page!



THE GENDERBREAD PERSON

You might have seen the genderbread person before - it's a great way of helping you to think about gender identity and gender expression.



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TOPS TIPS TO TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF

Things are really strange at the minute, and it might be having a big impact on our mental health. We've got some top tips here from Jack, one of our wellbeing practitioners, about some top tips that might help you to feel a bit better:

Treat yourself! Times are tough right now, so make sure to treat yourself even more than usual. My treat = mini eggs!

Change your clothes when you get up. It's tempting to stay in the world's comfiest duvet burrito all day, but we'll appreciate burrito life more if we mix it up a bit. Get your feelings out. Things can feel quite tangled at the moment saying your feelings out loud, writing them down, or drawing them out can help make sense of things.

Set yourself a routine, even if it's just: morning – school/college work, afternoon – catch up with friends, evening – chill out

Remind yourself that it's ok to not be productive. There's so much social media focus at the moment on using this time well and learning new skills, but it's totally ok to not do that! It's not possible for everyone anyway, particularly people with chronic illnesses. Sometimes just making a cup of tea is enough.

Plan one day at a time – it can be hard to make long term plans with so much uncertainty around, so it's ok to plan each day as it comes



FREEDOM ONLINE



Whilst we can't see everyone in person at the minute, we're all working hard to make sure that we can still bring you loads of Freedom content.

Follow us on social media - we're @FreedomLGBTQ on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter - for loads of interesting LGBTQ+ stuff.

If you'd like to join Freedom, email us at LGBTQ@otrbristol.org.uk we're still running our group sessions online!

Remember to check out OTR too for loads of mental health and wellbeing thoughts and ideas - www.otrbristol.org.uk



A few useful places to go if you need some support:

LGBT Switchboard: 0300 330 0630 www.switchboard.lgbt

> Mermaids: 0808 801 0400 www.mermaidsuk.org.uk

> > Mind Out: www.mindout.org.uk

Kooth: www.kooth.com

ANAGRAM ANSWERS

1) Travis Alabanza
2) April Ashley
3) Michael Dillon
4) Fox Fisher
5) Jamie Raines
6) Laverne Cox
7) Professor Stephen Whittle
8) Marsha P Johnson
9) Hannah Graf

