

Schools Can Be the Difference for Transgender and Gender Nonconforming Youth

Transgender and gender nonconforming (trans/GNC) youth face enormous obstacles to a safe and welcoming school environment, but students who attend supportive schools have better personal mental health and academic outcomes.

Trans/GNC youth are experiencing extremely hostile climates in US schools.

83.7% of transgender & 69.9% of GNC students

were bullied/harassed at school because of their gender.

Over 4 in 10 trans/GNC students face gender-related discrimination at school, including:



42.1% of trans/GNC students have been prevented from using their preferred name or pronoun.



46.5% of trans/GNC students have been required to use the incorrect bathroom.

And too few schools have supportive policies.

In fact, only 1 in 10 trans/GNC students report their school has policies or guidelines supporting trans/GNC students.

Good news!

Research shows that schools can help trans/GNC students by enacting supportive and inclusive policies. In fact, trans/GNC students in schools with trans/GNC student policies are **face less discrimination and are more engaged in school.**



Less likely to be prevented from using their preferred name or pronouns
(22.5% vs. 47.5%)



Less likely to be required to use the wrong bathrooms
(23.5% vs. 51.9%)



Less likely to miss school
(54.7% vs. 67.0%)

Together, we can make our schools safe and inclusive for LGBTQ youth. Here's how you can help:

Advocate for trans/GNC-inclusive policies
glsen.org/policy

Create a trans/GNC-inclusive curriculum
glsen.org/curriculum

Train educators to support trans/GNC youth
glsen.org/training



Data from the 2017 National School Climate Survey: The Experiences of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer Youth in Our Nation's Schools.

Learn more at glsen.org/nsccs