

## Contents

This resource pack is designed to help young people to access all the information they need on LGBT issues. The contents of this folder can be photocopied for free in the library – please ask a member of staff. The information can also be found on the city council’s website, at [www.birmingham.gov.uk/out-there](http://www.birmingham.gov.uk/out-there), and all the books mentioned are available from Birmingham libraries.

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## **Recommended Reads**

### **Non-Fiction**

Bono, Chastity – *Family Outing*

A self-help book for parents and teens-to-early-twenties on coming out. Chastity Bono (daughter of Cher and Sonny) interweaves the story of her own experience with her parents with those of many others, offering practical advice on seeing yourself as normal (parents and kids alike)

**305.90664**

Cameron, Rhona – *Nineteen Seventy Nine*

Memoir of growing up gay in a small town from the popular comedienne and TV personality

**941.036085**

Donnellan, Craig – *Sexuality*

Part of the 'Issues' series, looking at what it means to be a young LGBT person today. A useful unbiased starting point for information, with a list of helpful organizations and websites at the back

**306.766**

Donnellan, Craig – *Sexuality and Discrimination*

Themes addressed in this edition of the 'Issues' series include sexual orientation and homophobia in schools and the workplace , as well as aspects of the Civil Partnership Act

**306.76**

Hauschild, Myra – *Get used to it! : Lesbian and gay parents and their children*

This is a collection of photographs and interviews with people who grew up with a lesbian or gay parent. In their own words, 17 people aged from 15 to 34 talk about their relationship with a lesbian or gay parent

**306.874**

McDougall, Bryce – *My child is gay: how parents react when they hear the news*

This book is a compilation of letters written by parents who have a gay or lesbian child. The letters have been written to be shared - both to help parents cope with and come to terms with their feelings, and for gay men and women who are contemplating sharing the truth

**306.766**

Rashid, Norrina – *Girl 2 Girl*

This book is written for girls who have ever questioned their sexuality or fancied other girls. The contributors' voices resonate through poems, autobiographies, jokes, messages and advice to each other. Young women from 14 to 21 tell it like it is as they struggle to discover themselves and find a way to live openly in a homophobic world.

**305.489664**

Signorile, Michelangelo – *Outing Yourself*

How to come out as gay or lesbian to your family, friends and colleagues

**306.766**

Snow, Judith E. – *How it feels to have a gay or lesbian parent*

Children and young adults who have a gay or lesbian parent describe in their own words how and when they learned of their parent's sexual orientation and the effect it had on them – and their families

**306.87408664**

Stoppard, Miriam – *Sex Ed.*

Straightforward guide to all aspects of puberty, sex and sexuality for teens

**Teen Health**

## **Junior Fiction**

Fine, Anne – *Bill's New Frock*

Bill wakes up as a girl one day and is horrified to be sent to school in a pink frilly frock. There he discovers that life is very different as a girl. A funny and thought-provoking book about gender stereotypes

Walliams, David – *The Boy in the Dress*

This book is all about a boy named Dennis. He lives in a boring street in a boring town, and he doesn't have much to look forward to. But what he does have is dreams - and once he starts to follow them, things will never be the same again.

Gleitzman, Morris – *Two Weeks with the Queen*

Colin's little brother is dying of cancer, so his parents send him away to England as they think it will be less upsetting. Colin resolves to find the Queen's own doctor and cure his little brother. On the way he meets a gay man whose lover is also dying. A strong friendship begins as they each face the worst.

## **Teen Fiction**

Boock, Paula – *Dare, Truth or Promise*

Louie and Willa are two girls who fall for one another when Willa comes to work at the local fast food restaurant on the same shift as Louie. When Louie's mum finds out about the two of them, all hell breaks lose.

Burchill, Julie – *Sugar Rush*

Kim is horrified when she has to leave her private school and go to the local comprehensive. But then she falls under the spell of the gorgeous Maria 'Sugar' Sweet.

Burchill, Julie – *Sweet*

Burchill's second book for teens catches up with Sugar after her husband leaves her, taking their daughter with him. She plots to get a job, get some money, get out of Brighton – and find Kim.

Chambers, Aiden – *Postcards from No Man's Land*

Classic coming of age novel interweaving the stories of 17 year old Jacob, visiting Amsterdam for the first time, and the love between a Dutch woman and an English soldier in World War Two.

Clarke, Julia – *Between You and Me*

Jade has always felt happy and loved, but she starts to realise her parents and best friend are keeping secrets from her. The secrets turn out to be sinister, but there is a happy ending.

Gantos, Jack – *Desire Lines*

Sixteen-year-old Walker has accidentally discovered that two female classmates are lovers. When a rabid evangelical preacher arrives in their town, a witch-hunt is launched against gay students and Walker, for some reason, is the prime target. Walker knows the quickest way to divert the attention would be to give away the girls' secret - but should he sacrifice their peace of mind for his?

Gardner, Graham – *Inventing Elliot*

Elliot was bullied in his previous school and is determined to keep his head down at his new one. But he is soon singled out by a sinister group called the Guardians, who offer him power – but at what cost?

Hamilton, R.J. – *Who framed Lorenzo Garcia?*

Ramon Torres finds a home with gay police sergeant Lorenzo Garcia, who wants to adopt him, but their hopes are dashed when Lorenzo is arrested for a drug offence and Ramon is sent to a new foster home.

Levithan, David – *Boy Meets Boy*

Paul is gay and has no problem with that, but he has plenty of others. Exes, new love interests, friendship dramas and a school dance to plan make this an American high school novel like no other.

Magrs, Paul – *Strange Boy*

David is smart, sensitive and convinced he has super-powers. As family conflicts rage around him, he becomes more interested in the boy next door.

Newbery, Linda – *The Shell House*

Two teenagers from different times – modern day and World War One – face similar conflicts of love, faith, sexuality and family duty.

Peck, Dale – *Sprout*

Sprout has a secret, but it isn't that he is gay, that his father is an alcoholic or that his home is an ivy covered trailer. A moving and very funny coming of age story about a teenage boy growing up in rural Kansas.

Peters, Julie Anne – *Between Mom and Jo*

Nick has been raised by two moms and is now caught in the middle of their problems when they split up.

Summer, Jane (editor) *Not the Only One*

Collection of short stories by top gay and lesbian authors, giving hope and inspiration to teenagers as they either come out themselves or discover a friend or family member is gay.

Ure, Jean – *Get a Life*

Joel's brother, Noah, is a real heart-throb, always dating different girls. But when Lars Kennedy turns up things seem to change. Tall, blond and gorgeous, everyone falls for Lars. Then comes a startling revelation. One that will have fatal consequences...but will also be the start of a new life.

Van Lieshout, Ted – *Brothers*

Luke's brother has died but through his diary they are able to talk about things they couldn't discuss when he was alive. A touching novel about coming out.

Wittlinger, Ellen – *Hard Love*

At their first meeting, Marisol tells John she is a rich spoiled lesbian –she believes it is important to always tell the truth. John says he tells the truth too, but he doesn't always. He says his name is Giovanni and he is happy to be just friends.

## Useful Websites A to Z

### **[www.blgbt.org](http://www.blgbt.org)**

Website of the Birmingham LGBT Community Trust, who aim to improve the lives of LGBT people in the local area

### **[www.childline.org.uk](http://www.childline.org.uk)**

Helpline and web-based advice for children and young people affected by bullying, or worried about any issue

### **[www.eachaction.org.uk](http://www.eachaction.org.uk)**

Educational Action Challenging Homophobia, a charity for adults and young people affected by homophobia or transphobia. Website advice and a helpline

### **[www.gender-matters.org.uk](http://www.gender-matters.org.uk)**

West Midlands based charity providing support to the transgender community

### **[www.lgbthistorymonth.org.uk](http://www.lgbthistorymonth.org.uk)**

Information and events for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender history month

### **[www.mermaidsuk.org.uk](http://www.mermaidsuk.org.uk)**

Support for children and teenagers with gender identity issues, and their families

### **[www.schools-out.org.uk](http://www.schools-out.org.uk)**

Website aiming to provide support for those wishing to raise issues of homophobia, transphobia and heterosexism in education

### **[www.stonewall.org.uk](http://www.stonewall.org.uk)**

National civil rights group working for legal equality and social justice for lesbian, gay and bisexual people

### **[www.tht.org.uk](http://www.tht.org.uk)**

Website for the Terrence Higgins Trust, a UK charity fighting HIV and AIDS. Has a dedicated section with information and advice for young people

**<http://westmidlands.queeryouth.org.uk>**

Local branch of the UK's national organisation for LGBT youth

**[www.the-womens-press.com](http://www.the-womens-press.com)**

Extensive site for the feminist publisher, which includes details of lesbian fiction and 'Livewire', their offshoot publishing books aimed at young women

**[www.workitoutatbrook.org.uk](http://www.workitoutatbrook.org.uk)**

Birmingham-based group for gay, lesbian, bisexual, curious and confused young people aged 14 to 18, to discuss their concerns and socialise in a safe environment

## Glossary

**Heterosexual** – a person who is attracted to the opposite sex, i.e. a boy who likes girls, or a girl who likes boys. Also known as straight.

**Homosexual** – a person who is attracted to the same sex, i.e. a girl who likes girls, or a boy who likes girls. Also known as gay, or lesbian for girls.

**Bisexual** – a person who is attracted to people of both genders, male and female. Also known as bi.

**Homophobia** – a fear or hatred of **LGBT** people. This can lead to bullying in school and the workplace, or violence in the street. You do not have to be **homosexual**, **bisexual** or **transgender** to be bullied. If you feel threatened or want advice call one of the telephone numbers listed on page 15.

**LGBT** – this stands for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender. It is a general term used when advertising services for people within this community.

**Rainbow families** - families who are not the traditional mum and dad – they may have two dads, two mums, or other LGBT family members.

**Transgender** – a general term for people who feel their gender at birth doesn't fit them very well. At one end of the spectrum are **transvestites**; at the other are people who want surgery to change their gender.

**Transvestite** – a person who enjoys wearing clothes/accessories traditionally worn by the opposite gender, e.g. a boy who likes to wear dresses. This does not necessarily make them **homosexual** or want to change their gender.

**Coming out** – the process of telling your friends and family that you are **homosexual** or **bisexual**.

## **Information Shops for Young People**

Information Shops provide free, friendly and confidential information, help and support for all young people. Whether you just need basic information or someone to listen, they are there to help. You can call in personally or contact them by phone. Some centres also provide an e-mail service

Information Shop	Contact Details	Opening times
Base K/S	23-25 Kettlehouse Road Kingstanding Birmingham B44 9JH  Tel: 0121 464 5559 Email: baseKS@birmingham.gov.uk	Monday - 12:00pm-5:00pm (10:00am-12:00pm - Appointments Only) Tuesday - 12:00pm-6:00pm (10:00am-12:00pm - Appointments Only) Wednesday - 10:00am-5:00pm (Appointments Only) Thursday 12:00pm-6:00pm (10:00am-12:00pm - Appointments Only) Friday - 11:00am- 5:00pm (10:00am-11:00am - Appointments Only) Saturday and Sunday: Closed

The Shop

741 Bristol Road South  
Northfield  
Birmingham B31 2NG

Tel: 0121 464 1964

Monday -  
12:00pm-5:00pm  
Tuesday -  
12:00pm-6:00pm  
Wednesday -  
Closed  
Thursday  
12:00pm-5:00pm  
Friday - 12:00pm-  
5:00pm  
Saturday -  
10:00am-4:00pm  
Sunday - Closed

The Pump Youth  
Information Shop

286 Kitts Green Road  
Kitts Green  
Birmingham B33 8NF

Tel: 0121 675 8407

Monday -  
11:00am-4:30pm  
Tuesday -  
11:00am-4:30pm  
Wednesday -  
Closed  
Thursday -  
11:00am-4:30pm  
Friday - 11:00pm-  
3:00pm  
Saturday &  
Sunday - Closed

The Three Estates  
Information Shop  
for Young People

Teviot Grove  
Kings Norton  
Birmingham B38 9JX

Tel: 0121 459 9395

Monday - 2:00pm-  
5:00pm

Tuesday - 2:00pm-  
5:00pm

Wednesday -  
2:00pm-5:00pm

Thursday -  
2:00pm-5:00pm

Friday - 2:00pm-  
5:00pm

Saturday &

Sunday - Closed

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## **Helplines**

### **Childline – 0800 11 11**

Free and confidential helpline for children and young adults. Advice and information on a range of issues including bullying, sex, relationships, gender identity and families

**Available 24/7, all year round**

### **Educational Action Challenging Homophobia (EACH) - 0808 1000 143**

Free from landlines and most mobiles, this is a confidential service for children, young people and adults to report instances of homophobia or bullying

**Available Mon to Fri, 9.00am - 4.30pm**