

Equality Assembly – Primary

I am going to talk to you today and something called equality. Equality means treating everyone fairly and evenly and celebrating the things that make us different.

I'm going to give you some different scenarios that might happen in a school and I want you to tell me what you think about what has been said or you might have some advice for a person in the story.

- 1) Sally loves sport. At playtime she plays football with the children in her class. Sally is really good at football and is her team's top scorer. One day a boy tells her, "You shouldn't be playing football. Football is a boy's sport."

(Take responses from children)

- 2) Sam goes outside to break and looks around for some children in his class to play with. Sam sees a group of children from his class and walks over to them. "Can I join in?" he asks.

"We're not allowed to play with you because you don't believe in the same god as us."

(Take responses from children)

- 3) At lunchtime some boys have gathered around Suzanne. They are laughing at her and asking why is she wearing boy's clothes. Suzanne is frustrated because she knows that this is a very old-fashioned way of thinking. She knows that people don't have to dress in a certain way because they are a boy or a girl.

(Take responses from children)

- 4) Daniel is upset. Someone at his school said that he should, "Go back home, where he came from." Daniel is confused because he was born in England, although his mum and dad were born in Poland.

(Take responses from children)

- 5) George has two mums. When he talks about his family, he sometimes talks about Mum and Auntie because he is worried that other people might not understand that every family is different. He knows that the most important thing is to have a family that loves you.

(Take responses from children)

At this school we want everyone to be able to be themselves without worrying about what other people think.

At this school we know that it is not right to try to make someone feel bad about themselves or tell them they can't do something because

- they might find learning difficult
- they need a wheel chair to get around
- they might not see or hear as well as other children
- their skin colour is different from our own
- they might speak another language and have parents who grew up in another country
- they might have two mums or have two dads
- they might have a different religion or no religion at all
- they are a girl or a boy

We don't tease because we know that it is wrong to do, but also because there is a law that was passed in 2010 that says that we shouldn't.

Most of us feel at home in our bodies, but that some people don't. Some children are born in the body of a boy and know that inside, they are a girl. Some children are born in the body of a girl and know that they are a boy.

- 6) Philip is 10. Philip has been living as a boy for 1 year now. He was born a girl and before he decided to be Philip, his name was Sally. He always knew that he was a boy and feeling he had to be a girl made him unhappy. He was worried about what people would think about him when he decided to change. But now he has made the transition, he is really pleased to be able to be himself.

We think it is about 1 in every 100 people that feel like this. It could be more because sometimes people who feel like this don't want to tell anyone about it because they are worried about what other people might think.

I know that if we ever had someone in our school who was brave and confident enough to be who they wanted to be, and if that meant changing from a boy to girl or from a girl to a boy, you would know that it is ok because at our School we celebrate the fact that we have a school full of so many different people. We know that being yourself is a good thing.

We also all know what to do if we see someone else making someone feel bad because of who they are. What would we do?

(Take responses from children)