

Ideas for Promoting Gender Equality in Primary Schools

- Avoid lining up as boys and girls, drawing attention to difference (also awkward for children re own gender or friendships)
- Monitor jobs allocation eg avoid phrases like 'I need 2 strong boys' or '3 reliable girls'
- Check role models are not gendered eg scientists, nurses, fire fighters
- Check toys are not displayed to suggest gendering eg pink home corner
- Avoid labelling 'books for boys', 'stories for girls'
- Avoid different boys' and girls' rewards , gifts, treats
- Check fiction books eg animals not all male
- Ensure girls get to practice STEM (science, engineering, technology, maths) skills in play (watch free play especially big builder in playground) and boys are engaging with creative activities, especially development of empathy skills
- Use words parents / carers or grown ups
- Check peg labels are not gendered (pink and blue)
- Look at curriculum for female role models, not just princesses
- Call children 'children' (no need to explicitly draw attention to difference, otherwise children begin to police themselves eg 'only girls allowed in here', or 'I don't play with girls'.)



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