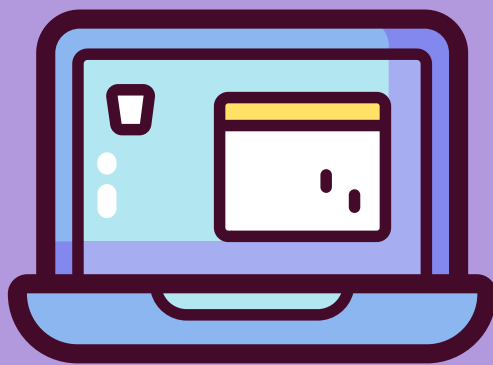


**WEAR IT  
PURPLE**



# HOW TO: WEAR IT PURPLE THE VIRTUAL EDITION

A guide to running a Virtual  
Wear It Purple Event at your School

# What is Wear It Purple:

Wear It Purple is a not-for-profit organisation, designed to raise awareness and understanding of LGBTQIA+ issues. And we need your help to continue supporting the youth of our communities!

Do I need to be LGBTQIA+ to run Wear It Purple? No! Running this event is not a reflection of your sexuality, rather a representation of the school culture you wish to nurture.



WHAT EXACTLY IS LGBTQIA+?  
DON'T BE EMBARRASSED IF YOU'RE AN ALLY BUT WOULDN'T COUNT YOURSELF AS AN EXPERT! IN SHORT IT MEANS:

L

**LESBIAN** (a woman who is sexually/romantically attracted to women)

G

**GAY** (a man who is sexually/romantically attracted to men)

B

**BISEXUAL** (someone who is sexually/romantically attracted to more than one gender)

T

**TRANSGENDER** (a term used to describe someone who does not identify as their assigned gender at birth: may also refer to Trans, Transitioning, Trans Man and Trans Woman)

I

**INTERSEX** (a blanket term people who are born with sexual characteristics that do not subscribe to one specific gender, such as physical characteristics).

Q

**QUEER AND QUESTIONING** (Queer: a term reclaimed by the LGBTQIA+ community to represent their wider community and identify. Questioning: a person who is currently exploring their own sexuality).

A

**ASEXUAL** (someone who shares no or limited sexual attraction to others, however may still engage with romantic interests).

+

**THE 'PLUS'** is used to signify all of the gender identities and sexual orientations that are not specifically covered by the other seven initials. An example: Sistergirl and Brotherboy\* are terms used by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to describe gender diverse people that have a female/male spirit that is different to their 'assigned' gender at birth.

**FAQ's**

**WEAR IT  
PURPLE**

## **WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE AN ALLY?**

Being an ally simply means acknowledging and supporting! Some people may think to be a true ally you need to wear it like a badge of pride. Being an ally may include simple acts like acknowledging people's personal preferred pronouns, disrupting discriminatory mindsets or behaviours ... However, we need our youth to understand that there is a wealth of allies in their community!

## **IS THIS RUN BY TEACHERS OR STUDENTS?**

A rich Wear It Purple day should have all aspects of the school included: Teachers, Students, Non-Teaching staff, members of Executive! We recommend at least a staff member co-ordinating the event, with a robust team featuring both staff and student involvement to ensure the event runs as smoothly as possible. If you've already got a Gay Straight Alliance / Gender Sexuality Alliance or other sort of Queer Collective club at school, you've already got the foundation of your Wear It Purple team sorted!

## **IS THIS AN EFFORT TO SOCIALLY ENGINEER KIDS?**

No, no! The goal of Wear It Purple is to encourage a culture of acceptance and tolerance, while enhancing awareness of issues relevant to the LGBTQIA+ community. Wear It Purple meets a variety of school frameworks, which we go into more depth in the 'Why Wear It Purple' section.

## **I'M NOT SURE IF THE WHOLE SCHOOL WILL GET BEHIND THIS. IS IT WORTH DOING?**

We understand that not everyone is going

to get on board right away. In many cases, this may be a case of encouraging a change of culture in your school. Big things begin as small seeds: any involvement with WIP is a worthwhile seed!

## **I THINK MY PRINCIPAL WILL BE HESITANT ABOUT DOING AN OUT OF UNIFORM DAY, BUT WE'RE KEEN. WHAT CAN WE DO?**

That's okay! Not everyone has to celebrate the day in the same way. In this pack, you'll find a variety of examples that other schools have done to great affect. You can choose one or all of these!

## **MY SCHOOL HAVE A COOL IDEA TO DO THIS THAT WE THINK WOULD WORK REALLY WELL WITH OUR SCHOOL. CAN WE CELEBRATE WIP THIS WAY?**

Absolutely! We want to see WIP celebrated in as many ways as possible. If you're not sure, get in contact with us and we can provide feedback or guidance to ensure your day is as inclusive as possible. We would even love to add to our recommendations: we want to get behind your cool idea and see it expand to other schools!

## **WHAT DO WE NEED TO GIVE TO WEAR IT PURPLE TO TAKE PART?**

Nothing! You can run your own event, using our suggestions or creating your own, and it'll still be helping our communities! However – we do ask that you register your event so we can get a wider idea of what's going on, and that if you fundraise for the day that you donate the profit to Wear It Purple as we are a not-for-profit organisation and would love to build up our team!

**Why Wear It  
Purple?**

**WEAR IT  
PURPLE**

Wear it Purple shares the same goals of Australian school systems in providing the foundation for Inclusive Education of which all students can take part. We share the same goal of ensuring that we create a safe, caring school environment in which students are nurtured as they learn while recognising the diversity within the school community and providing programs and support which acknowledge difference to promote harmony.



stressed that the NSWDEC (2015) recognises that teaching and learning as parallel to development of wellbeing, with both essential for the personal and academic success of students.

Wear it Purple wants to help create a supportive and inclusive environment which promotes student acceptance, attendance, and success: in short, we want to assist in a planned approach to wellbeing.

Under the 'Every Student is Known, Valued and Cared For' strategic framework, it is paramount that schools establish and sustain structures to support student individual wellbeing. Adapting Wear it Purple as a whole school collaborative effort makes a clear message to students and the local community: we accept students for who they are, and believe all students should feel a sense of belonging in our community.

Wear it Purple seeks to build Emotional, Social, and Spiritual Wellbeing capabilities within the school community by enhancing a sense of community on a shared sense of ethics and values. Wear it Purple aims to:

- help students connect further to their community through developing positive relationship behaviour (such as forming relationships which are safe, supportive, and respectful)
- help students succeed by providing further foundations for positive self esteem and character traits, while enabling a positive environment for learners where they feel confident in taking risks and stretching their academic potential.
- help students thrive by using Wear it Purple as an initiative which enables student involvement, advocacy and contributions to their community. Furthermore, Wear it Purple enables opportunities for student success and recognition.

As a wellbeing initiative, it must be

### **TAKING A STEP BACK FROM IT BEING A WHOLE SCHOOL INITIATIVE, WHY SHOULD YOU TAKE ON WEAR IT PURPLE?**

- It demonstrates your commitment and understanding of wellbeing frameworks through all levels of school and their importance in creating and maintain supportive and safe learning environments: from individual support that may be provided, to spearheading and overseeing whole school programs.
- By leading this example through developing and reviewing school wide inclusive leaning environments and strategies to maintain these, you'll be supporting all students while strengthening your bound with the wider school community. Using and reviewing your Tell Them From Me data may be useful in seeing the impact you've made!
- You'll have the opportunity to connect, engage and participate with professional networks to broaden your knowledge and improve practise. Within your own school alone you may take this opportunity to be involved with your School Improvement Plan process!
- It will give you a wealth of data and resources for the development of any levels of accreditation you're seeking, as well as be super useful in any teaching vacancy applications you complete.

# Virtual Wear It Purple Day Suggestions

We know that Covid-19 restrictions may throw a spanner in the works for many schools trying to organise a Wear it Purple Day. For this reason we have come up with some creative ways to still celebrate WIPD virtually in 2022. Using your schools chosen online learning platform (Zoom, Google Meet, Microsoft teams etc) these activities can be run remotely and reach a large portion of your student population. Don't forget to download your free Wear it Purple Zoom background [here](#).







## INCORPORATE SCHOOL GSA (GENDER AND SEXUALITY ALLIANCE) STUDENTS

A GSA is a student led extra-curricular group that offers support and social interaction for students who identify as LGBTQIA+ and their straight allies.

If your school already has an existing GSA, these students benefit greatly from being involved in the organisation of days of significance such as WIPD. Further discussions with this group can lead to amazing brainstorming of great ideas for your school's event, giving more ownership of WIPD to your rainbow students.

If your school does not yet have a GSA, creating a student "task force" for Wear it Purple Day will quite often lead to these students wanting to create a GSA or student support network. Sign up for GSA student and teacher guides [here](#).



## PURPLE SELFIE COMPETITION

- Encourage students to still dress in their best purple attire and share selfies with your class/school.

Selfies can be uploaded to their personal social media or the school can run a competition of their own with selfies emailed to your school and uploaded on your school social media.

Use hashtags:

**#wearitpurple**  
**#wearitpurpleday**  
**#wipd2022**  
**#stillmestillhuman**



## LGBTQIA+ TRIVIA

Encourage your students to log on and participate in a game of Kahoot or jeopardy that is LGBTQIA+ specific.

## KAHOOT

We have created an official Wear it Purple one for you [here](#) or you can create your own.

## LGBTQIA+ JEOPARDY

Head to jeopardylabs [here](#) to play a game of LGBTQIA+ jeopardy with your students.

## SCHOOL VIRTUAL WIPD PARTY

This activity idea will require more organisation on the school's part but will make for a fun event for your students stuck at home.



Encourage students/staff to participate in a "variety show". From their home, they can perform musical numbers, spoken word poetry, stand-up comedy etc. It is advised that a teacher reviews intended content BEFORE the event to ensure it is appropriate/relevant.

The theme for WIPD 2021 is "Start the conversation... keep it going". So we encourage these important conversations to occur. The power of storytelling is what connects us and allows for the building of empathy in young people. Rainbow students (both current and past) or even teachers may wish to share their personal story. We advise requesting a written version of the talk prior to the event to ensure appropriateness of content.



## GUEST SPEAKERS

Request a guest speaker from Wear it Purple or other LGBTQIA+ organisations (Twenty10, Minus18 and Transcend etc) to speak with your students about the importance of WIPD and how they can be good allies to their LGBTQIA+ mates.

Former students who identify as LGBTQIA+ can also be used as guest speakers as they often have very powerful and motivating stories to share. Students often relate well to former student guest speakers and feel more confident asking questions.

Guest speakers can safely call in from remote locations.

## FILM STUDIES

Films can be accessed and shared from Netflix using the "Teleparty" extension for chrome.



Simply download the extension and up to 50 people can watch the LGBTQIA+ film of your choice. Once you have chosen a film to watch with your students, create a basic worksheet that will both empower your students and encourage higher order thinking. This activity is intended to help create a sense of empathy for students to understand the adversity faced by others. Possible films choices:

- Love Simon
- Gayby Baby
- Pray the gay (2021 netflix)



### CROSS-CURRICULAR LESSONS

Engaging other faculties in the school to create WIPD/LGBTQIA+ lessons for either the week of WIPD or on WIPD can be highly effective for creating student empathy. Examples listed below:

### HISTORY

Creating lessons on LGBTQIA+ history in Australia and around the world. Can include dates of significance, Stonewall riots, 1978 Sydney Riots. Also including people of significance, from celebrities to LGBTQIA+ historical personalities and their impact on the world e.g. Alan Turing



### ART

Creating WIPD and pride artworks. Case studies on famous LGBTQIA+ artists.



### PDHPE

Case studies on LGBTQIA+ athletes, which can include a study on LGBTQIA+ athletes at the Tokyo Olympic Games.



Youtube links:

ABC News report: [Here](#)  
Inquirer Report: [Here](#)

### FOOD TECHNOLOGY

WIPD bake sale or a baked goods competitions. Many schools have purple cake contests, including cupcakes.



### MUSIC

Case studies on famous LGBTQIA+ musical artists



### ENGLISH:

Book or poetry studies featuring LGBTQIA+ writers. Eg Ivan Coyote, Andrea Gibson, Audre Lorde, Walt Whitman, Virginia Woolf, Oscar Wilde etc.



### MATHEMATICS

A case study on LGBTQIA+ mathematicians and their impact on the world as we know it e.g Alan Turing



# WEAR IT PURPLE

Wear It Purple acknowledges the Traditional Owners of country throughout Australia, their diversity, histories, knowledge and their continuing connections to land and community. We pay our respects to all Australian Indigenous Peoples and their cultures, and to Elders of past, present and emerging.



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