EASY ENGLISH

Diverse

- sexes
- sexualities
- genders

It can also be called LGBTIQ+
New words

There may be words in this factsheet

• that are new to you and
• you may not know what they mean
  or
• you may be unsure what they mean.

We will make them blue the first time we use them.

Read about them in the
Family Planning Victoria fact sheet
New Words to Know.
Diversity

It is about things that most people have that are the same but are shown in different ways.

Like Most people have eyes. but

Some people have
• blue eyes
• brown eyes or
• green eyes.

That is OK.
Some people have different ways to show their

- sex characteristics
  Read about this from page 5

- sexuality
  Read about this from page 9

- gender.
  Read about this from page 12.

It is important to respect people when they have different ways of showing their

- sex
- sexuality
- gender.
Sex

This is about the sex characteristics you are born with.

The sex characteristics you are born with can be

- male
- female

or

- male and female.

You are also born with

- genes
  
  and

- hormones.
Genes

You can not see your genes.

but

they are in every part of your body.

Your genes come from your parents.
Your genes say what you will look like.
Like your
- eye colour
- skin colour
- hair colour.

Hormones

You can not see your hormones.

but

they are in every part of your body.

They are special chemicals in your body.
The hormones show

- male

and

- female

sex characteristics.

Males and females have different amounts of hormones in their body.

Your sex characteristics are also about your private body parts.

They are also called your **genitals**. Like,

- **penis**

- **testicles**. They are sometimes called your balls.
- vagina
- vulva.
Sexuality

This can also be called

- sexual orientation
  
or
  
- romantic attraction.

It is about the people you have

- sexy
  
or
  
- romantic feelings for.

It is based on your gender identity.

See page 12 for more on gender identity.

Everyone has these feelings differently.
You can have these feelings for

- people who have a different gender to you.

Like, a man has sexy feelings for a woman.

- people who have the same gender as you.

Like, a woman has sexy feelings for another woman.

- people who have a different gender to you and people who have the same gender as you.

Like, a man has sexy feelings for another man and also has sexy feelings for a woman.
Some people do **not** have any

- sexy
- or
- romantic feelings for anyone.

This is called Asexual.

That is OK.
Gender

It is also called gender identity.

It is about how you see yourself. Like

- a woman
- a man
- a woman and a man
  or
- not a woman
  and
- not a man.

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Gender identity is also about how you let other people know who you are.

It is called Gender Expression.

You do this by

- the name you use
- the words you use about yourself. Like,
  - he and him
  - she and her

  or

  - they and them
- what you wear
- what you say
- how you talk

  and

- do things with other people.
LGBTIQ+

There are lots of words to talk about diverse

- sexes
- sexuality
- genders.

Here are some of them.

**Lesbian**

A woman has sexy or romantic feelings for other women.

**Gay**

A man has sexy or romantic feelings for other men.

**Bisexual**

A person has sexy or romantic feelings for men and women.
**Transgender**

A person who has a gender identity that does **not** match the sex characteristics they were born with.

**Intersex**

A person who has male **and** female sex body parts.

**Queer**

Another word used to talk about the LGBTIQ+ community.

**Questioning**

A person who is

- **not** sure

or

- trying to work out their
  - sexuality

  or

  - gender identity.
**Straight**
A person has sexy or romantic feelings for someone that has a different gender to them.
It is also called heterosexual.

**Cisgender**
A person who has a gender identity that matches sex characteristics they were born with.

**Cross-dress**
A person that dresses in the clothes of the gender that is different to them.

**Asexual**
A person that does not have any
- sexy
- or
- romantic feelings for anyone.
Pronouns

These are the words like

• him
• her
• they.

These words are used by a person to help show their gender identity.
Respect other people

We all must respect everyone else.

It does not matter if they have different

- sex characteristics
- sexuality
- gender identity.

It is **not ok** to

- bully other people
- hurt other people

or

- leave out other people because of their
  - sex characteristics
  - gender identity
  - sexuality.
This is called homophobia or transphobia.

Remember

Everyone can be different.

Everyone must respect other people.
Any Questions?

Melbourne Sexual Health Centre

Phone 9341 6200
Images

We have used images from

- Inspired Services
- Boardmaker - Mayer-Johnson
- Picto-Selector

Family Planning Victoria wrote this information. March 2018