Bullying and discrimination among LGBTQ+ youth in schools & universities

Theirworld wanted to find out how safe LGBTQ+ youth feel in schools and universities. YouGov polled 545 LGBTQ+ people aged 16-24 in the UK between June 11 - 18th 2024.

### How safe do they feel?

- **>1 in 4**
  - 27% of LGBTQ+ youth said they felt or currently feel unsafe in secondary school.

- **47%**
  - Almost half of LGBTQ+ youth have been bullied and/or discriminated against because of their sexual orientation.

- **1 in 4**
  - Of LGBTQ+ youth have been bullied and/or discriminated against because of their gender identity.

### Forms of bullying and/or discrimination

- **73%** Verbal abuse
- **53%** Harassment
- **31%** Online abuse
- **24%** Threats of violence
- **19%** Purposefully misgendered
- **16%** Physical abuse
- **15%** Sexual abuse

### Did they report it?

- **49%** Never reported it
- **30%** Reported it multiple times
- **18%** Reported it once
- **2%** Prefer not to say or don’t know

72% of those who did report it to staff said that staff responded badly.

“I was added to a group chat of students where I was outed to the full year group and subsequently bullied, called slurs and names daily. Most teachers ignored the bullying especially if it was in their classroom. They would mock my gender and discuss my identity with other students in a negative way.”

Survey respondent

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YouGov polled 545 people aged 16-24 in the UK between June 11-18th 2024. 337 were still in education. The survey was carried out online. The figures have been weighted and are representative of all LGBTQ+ 16-24s in UK.