



WICK HIGH SCHOOL
LEARNING - AMBITION - RESPECT

Social Dance Policy 2022

At Wick High School we strive to create a safe and inclusive sporting atmosphere, extending across all areas of Physical Education, Physical Activity, and Sport.

All PE staff are keen to fully embed our LGBTQIA+ inclusion manifesto which seeks to promote all areas of inclusion, and derived from discussions with our LGBTQIA+ Equalities Group and community.

Wick High School takes consideration of the protected characteristics which underpin the Equality Act (2010) such as disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion & belief, sex and sexual orientation when developing and implementing a policy.

As a result of the Covid-pandemic, many of our junior school are yet to take part in social dancing at Wick High School and most of our pupils have not participated in social dancing for at least two academic years.

In response to our work on the LGBT Youth Scotland Chartership, the department are keen to implement the following policy when delivering Social Dance:

1. When pupils arrive for Social Dance they are all asked to sit in the middle all together, rather than the typical, boys on one side, girls on the other. This eliminates the need for the dreaded 'walk across the room'.
2. Pupils are asked to 'pick a friend', instead of a member of the opposite gender.
3. Instead of using 'Boy' and 'Girl' references, staff and pupils should refer to 'Leader' and 'Follower'. Pupils will learn both roles and steps.
4. More inclusion of Individual and Group dances. Pupil voice has indicated that pupils feel more comfortable when less emphasis is placed on paired dances.
5. Pupils are encouraged to dance with friends at the end of term party.

These small changes have obvious benefits for our LGBTQIA+ pupils, but also promote inclusion among all of our pupils.

Staff are aware of how these small changes can go a long way to promote inclusion for our LGBTQIA+ pupils in particular, and every effort is made to follow this policy when delivering Social Dance.

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