# Guidance on transgender awareness removed from Northern Ireland primary schools



Guidance regarding transgender awareness in Northern Ireland primary schools has been removed. Initially, the Council for the Curriculum, Examinations and Assessment (CCEA) provided Relationship and Sex Education (RSE) resources indicating that children could realize they are transgender between the ages of three and five. This guidance, based on research from 2013 funded by the Office of the First Minister and Deputy First Minister (OFMDFM), has been withdrawn due to the age of the research.

Alexa Moore from the Rainbow Project, an LGBTQ+ support charity, stated that the change is based on a technicality rather than a shift in policy. She emphasized the necessity for continued support for transgender youth. Conversely, Fiona McAnena from Sex Matters, a human rights charity, supported the removal, calling the previous guidance misleading and potentially harmful by reinforcing gender stereotypes.