

# Warrington's Early Help LGBTQ+ Youth Support Service



# What is TAGS

**TAGS** stands for *Teenagers, Gender & Sexuality*

... but it means a whole lot more!

**It is a safe place that young people aged 11 - 24 who identify as LGBTQ+ can come and find peer support advice and acceptance.**

We have two groups based in a town center location;



**Jaime Graham**  
**Tags 11-16 years**

Jaime.graham@warrington.gov.uk  
**07775024897**

**Sharon Johnson**  
**Tags 17-24 years**

Sharon.johnson@warrington.gov.uk  
**07717815859**



# Timeline of LGBTQ+ Youth support in Warrington



**In the Late 1990's**

**GLYSS (Gay, Lesbian, Youth Support Service) was established as a project offering support to young people who were lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans (LGBT) or who were unsure of their sexuality.**



**During 2016**

**Young people wanted to reinvent the group and change its name and logo to be more inclusive of other identities within the LGBTQ+ community. TAGS (Teenagers, Gender & Sexuality) was formed with a new name and logo designed by the young people.**

# What we do

## 1-1 Targeted support

To support the completion of an EHA to offer an holistic care planned approach to supporting LGBTQ+ young people.

## 11-16 Group support

Exploration of sexuality and gender in a safe and confidential space.

## 17-24 Group support

Transition to adulthood. Enable self-support strategies to become **peer mentors**

## TAGS Mission statement

To empower young people to take control of their lives and to make informed decisions while developing emotional resilience in a **safe space**

## Parent/carer support

Supporting parents/carers and Facilitating quarterly parent meetings

## Email, telephone and text support

Supporting parents/carers, professional and young people

## Awareness workshops & training

Liaising with other professionals, schools and colleges to support them in their role.

## Celebration Events

Gender neutral fashion show, Prom, Pride, TDOR, IDAHOBIT LGBTQ History month



# Outcomes

**Give young people a voice & increase the visibility of TAGS**



**Provide young people with positive role models**



**Enable young people to break down barriers and address issues that directly affect their lives**



**Challenge risky behaviours, including alcohol, drugs and sexual health**



**Awareness raising to help reduce isolation, discrimination and oppression in young people**

**Address the mental & emotional well-being of young people**



**Improve young people's self-confidence, esteem, value and worth**



**Make new friends & build relationships with other North West youth groups and attend regional meetings**



**Reduce isolation of LGBTQ+ young people - social activity, personal and social development**



**Encourage healthier lifestyle choices & independent living**



# How to refer

## If you are requesting Targeted Early Help Support into TAGS for a young person

Please be aware due to the increase in demand for LGBTQ+ 1-1 support there may be a waiting list. However upon receipt of a referral we will always make contact with the young person & offer other forms of support if appropriate while they wait for an allocated 1-1 youth worker.

**Targeted 1-1 support for young people aged 11-19yrs and up to 25yrs if SEND**

**11- 16yrs group support  
16- 25yrs group support**

**Please complete a MARS (Multi Agency Request for Services) through;**

[https://my.warrington.gov.uk/service/Multi\\_Agency\\_Request\\_for\\_Services](https://my.warrington.gov.uk/service/Multi_Agency_Request_for_Services)

The MARS has been developed using a digital platform and when you press submit, the MARS will be delivered to the correct team in the MASH (Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub).

The form does require you to register a My Warrington account.

**Please outline the request is for  
1-1 support only or both 1-1 & group support**

Highlight the needs of the young person. Any risks identified, strengths & difficulties and why 1-1 support is required.

**Please outline the request is for  
Group support only**

Indicate any other information we need to know about including any risk management



# Useful Contacts for Young People



Advice Support & Information  
**0345 3 30 30 30**  
[info@lgbt.foundation](mailto:info@lgbt.foundation)



Free confidential,  
text support service  
Text **SHOUT** to 85258.



[www.gids.nhs.uk/](http://www.gids.nhs.uk/)



Advice Support & Information  
**08000 50 20 20**  
[www.stonewall.org.uk](http://www.stonewall.org.uk)



HOPELineUK 0800 068 41 41  
Text 07786 209697  
[www.papyrus-uk.org](http://www.papyrus-uk.org)



Axess Sexual Health Service  
[www.axess.clinic/](http://www.axess.clinic/)



Albert Kennedy Trust  
homeless support for 16 – 25 or  
living in a hostile environment.

[akt.org.uk](http://akt.org.uk)



Free, safe and anonymous  
online support for young people  
Monday – Friday 12pm – 10pm  
Saturday – Sunday 6pm – 10pm



ONLINE. ON THE PHONE. ANYTIME.

Call us free on 0800 1111



**0161 660 3347**

9am-5.30pm daily, plus emergency calls on weekends  
Proud Connections - The web chat will be open **12pm - 6pm** on **Tuesdays** and **Thursdays** visit;  
<https://www.theproudtrust.org/proud-connections/>



# Useful Contacts for Parents/Carers



Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays

**Confidential Helpline 0845 652 0311**

**[www.fflag.org.uk](http://www.fflag.org.uk)**

**[Info@fflag.org.uk](mailto:Info@fflag.org.uk)**



**[happyoksad.warrington.gov.uk](http://happyoksad.warrington.gov.uk)**



**YOUNGmINDS**

**YOUNGmINDS**

**YOUNGmINDS**

**Parents Helpline: 0808 802 5544**  
(Monday to Friday 9.30am – 4pm,  
free for mobiles and landlines)

**SAMARITANS**

Warrington, Halton  
& St Helens

**[Samaritans:](http://Samaritans.org.uk)** 116 123  
*Open 24/7*

**0808 801 0400** or text **MERMAIDS** to  
**85258** for **24/7** crisis support,  
or use the webchat on their website.  
*Open 9am – 9pm Monday to Friday*  
*(helpline and webchat).*

**[info@mermaidsuk.org.uk](mailto:info@mermaidsuk.org.uk)**



Help and support for the  
transgender community

Information Line (24/7/365)  
**01582 412220**

**Switchboard**



Connecting you to LGBTQ support

0300 330 0630  
*10am – 10pm everyday*

Contact us on:  
**07792234867**

**[info@transwarrington.com](mailto:info@transwarrington.com)**





# TAGS Contact Details

Warrington Borough Council  
Early Help Youth Support Service **01925 442440**



Warrington Youth Service



tagswarrington@hotmail.com



@WarringtonYS



@warringtonyouthservice

