

LGBTQIA+ Ally

1. Be a listener
2. Be open-minded
3. Take responsibility for your own education on issues related to gender identity and sexual orientation. Take the initiative to become as knowledgeable as you can on issues of concern to people who are LGBTQIA+
4. Don't ask highly personal questions
5. Making mistakes is part of the learning process of practicing allyship. Acknowledge and apologize for mistakes; learn from them
6. Understand that people who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex, or asexual are experts on their own experience, and that you have much to learn from them
7. Always use the pronouns & name people want you to use. If you're unsure, ASK!
8. Be inclusive and invite LGBTQIA+ friends to hang out with your friends and family
9. Don't assume that all your friends or fellow students are straight. Someone close to you could be looking for support in their coming-out process. Not making assumptions will give them the space they need.
10. Anti-LGBTQIA+ comments and jokes are harmful. Let them know that you find them offensive.
11. Confront your own prejudices and bias, even if it is uncomfortable to do so.
12. Defend your LGBTQIA+ friends against discrimination.
13. Believe that all people, regardless of gender identity and sexual orientation, should be treated with dignity and respect.
14. Remember that ally is a verb - actions are more powerful than words. Engage people in discussions & share your knowledge