

Tackling sexism in schools online training

A guide for Initial Teacher
Training providers



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Together we can end sexism in schools
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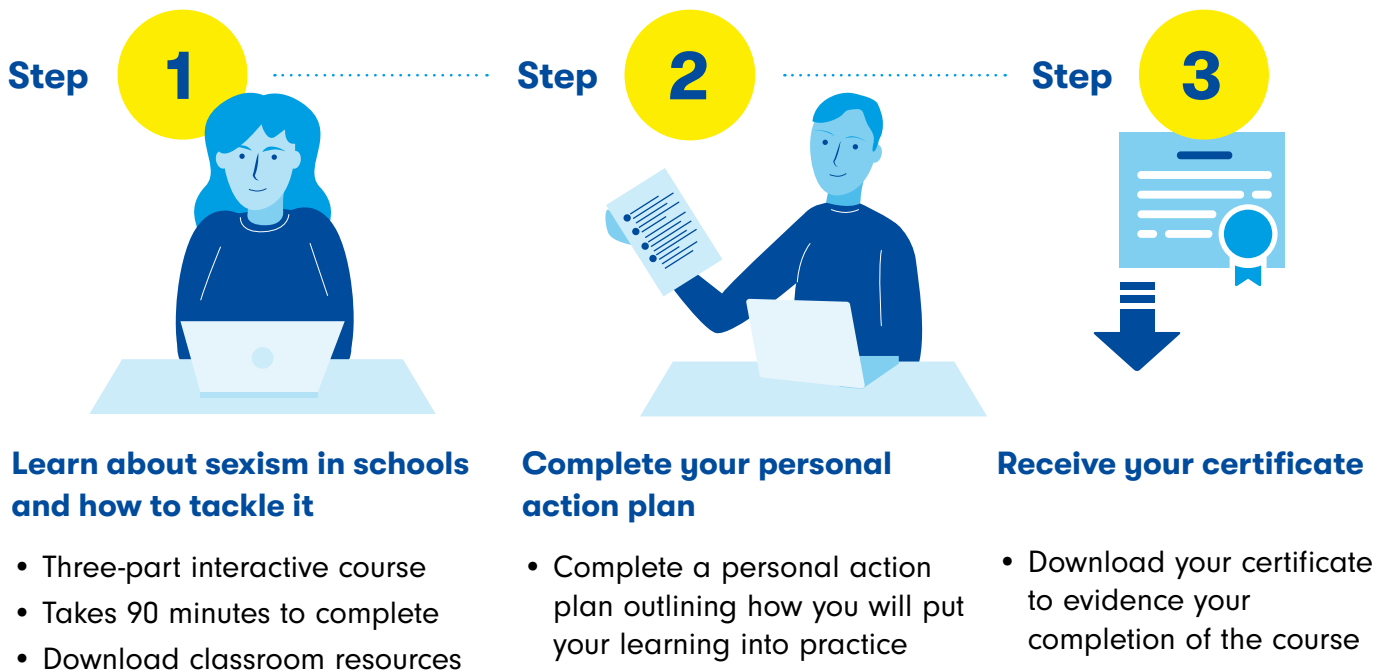
About the training

UK Feminista's free online teacher training course equips trainee teachers with the knowledge, tools and confidence to challenge sexism in the classroom.

The online training can be integrated into any teacher training course and delivered internally by Initial Teacher Training (ITT) providers and schools. It provides flexibility when programme time is constrained, allowing students to complete the training from a remote location at a time of their choosing.

The online training course enables teachers to meet their legal duty to challenge sexism and discrimination in schools. The course includes interactive activities, case studies, video content and classroom resources for trainees to utilise in their teaching practice.

UK Feminista's online teacher training course



To access the training visit:

training.ukfeminista.org.uk

“Written in 3 x 30 minute modules, with numerous downloadable resources, this free training on sexism in schools is not only easily accessible and well researched but thought provoking and provides concrete strategies and ideas for trainees. I would thoroughly recommend it as a tool for ITT providers to use.”

Eluned Pickup, Senior teaching fellow, PGCE programme – University of Southampton

What does the course cover?

The online teacher training course explores:

- the impact of sexism in schools and society
- how and why school communities should work together to tackle sexism
- practical tools for challenging sexual harassment, sexist language and gender stereotyping in the classroom.

How can ITT providers use the course?

Simply share the online training link with students. Course leaders and students then have flexibility over when and where it is completed.

UK Feminista's online teacher training course can be used by trainees to evidence Part Two of the Teacher's Standards: Personal and Professional Conduct. By completing the course trainees will be able to demonstrate progress in their professional knowledge and understanding of 'the need to safeguard pupils' well-being in accordance with statutory provisions'.¹

At the end of the training, trainees will be asked to complete a personal action plan outlining how they will put their learning into practice. This action plan can then form the basis of tutor or group discussion.

1. [gov.uk/government/publications/teachers-standards](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/teachers-standards)



“The feedback from our trainees about this course was overwhelmingly positive. It highlights the importance of the role of teachers in tackling sexism and provides useful resources to assist with this. All trainees felt that they were much more confident to address the issues raised in their classrooms after taking the training and intended to put what they had learned into practice.”

Ralph Thomas, PGCE Secondary Programme Director - University of Exeter

Why do teachers need training on tackling sexism?

Sexism is commonplace in UK schools



Over a third (37%) of girls in mixed-sex secondary schools have been sexually harassed.



64% of teachers in mixed-sex secondary schools hear sexist language in school on at least a weekly basis. Over a quarter of teachers (29%) report that sexist language is a daily occurrence.



Over a third (34%) of primary school teachers say they witness gender stereotyping in their schools on at least a weekly basis.



62% of primary and secondary school teachers want to receive training on tackling sexism.



Just one in five (20%) secondary school teachers has received training in recognising and tackling sexism as part of their Initial Teacher Education.

Research by UK Feminista and the National Education Union, published in "It's just everywhere": A study on sexism in schools and how we tackle it.

Teachers have a legal duty to challenge sexism

Teachers have a critical role to play in tackling sexism in schools. However, they need support and guidance to be able to do so effectively.

Initial Teacher Training provision should equip trainee teachers with the relevant information and resources to enable teachers to fulfil their legal and professional duties. Every trainee teacher should have the opportunity to learn about sexism and how to challenge it in the classroom.

"In addition to the content detailed in the ITT Core Content Framework, it remains a statutory requirement – as set out in the ITT Criteria – for providers to ensure that their curricula fulfil these statutory duties, including ensuring trainees are fully aware of their duties in respect of safeguarding and equalities legislation."

ITT Core Content Framework

"Inspectors also evaluate whether ITE partnerships meet the statutory initial teacher training criteria and requirements, and all relevant legislation, including that related to safeguarding, promoting equality and diversity, and eliminating discrimination."

Ofsted

"Our trainee teachers at St Mary's University have benefited hugely from the online CPD materials from UK Feminista to raise awareness of issues around tackling sexism in schools. The online resources provide useful training materials, equipping our new teachers with some of the knowledge and strategies to address any issues of sexism in their schools. This is an essential part of a teacher's overall responsibilities and I recommend the UK Feminista CPD package to all ITT providers."

Professor Anna Lise Gordon, Director of Institute of Education – St Mary's University

What trainee teachers say about the training

100%

of participants found the training useful.*

99%

of participants now feel more confident about how to tackle sexism in the classroom.*

99%

of participants would recommend this training to other teachers.*

*Participants who completed the training between April and July 2020

"I genuinely really enjoyed the training, it really opened my eyes up to the role a teacher can have in tackling sexism and also the little ways that can have a huge impact."

"The resources are great - they are things I can genuinely see myself using in my classroom. I also liked the scenarios that made me think about how I might respond. I will be more confident in challenging sexist language. I will also be more likely to start a feminist society or lead an assembly or staff training about sexism in schools."

"I think all teachers should have to do this. As important as safeguarding and Prevent training!!"

"Everything about the training was really useful, especially the specific action plans and activities ideas on how to raise awareness and tackle different situations. I will definitely try to implement every activity seen as well as challenging sexism within my own subject and creating specific workshops or clubs regarding sexism. I really loved it. Thank you for the inspiration!"

"Thank you - this is one of the best courses of its type I have come across."

"Having the resources available to download, with the statistics on, is hugely helpful. I also feel much more confident that the issue is something that MUST be addressed, not an optional extra."

"The materials provided are amazing, so useful for teachers and students."

"Really good training, not too time-consuming, provides great resources and advice for teachers."

"The issue was explained extremely clearly and persuasively. A wide range of practical ideas were provided. I am starting my NQT year in September. This course has emphasised my role and responsibility in tackling sexism in my school, and given me the confidence to do so, as well as practical ideas."

"The course is excellent - I really can't think of how to make it better."

"This Tackling Sexism in Schools training is an invaluable resource for our PGCE students here at King's. By highlighting the issue in a clear and easy to navigate online training platform, our students are now better able to identify the different forms in which sexism can take place in schools, as well as have clear resources on how to tackle it in their new roles as NQTs."

Isabelle Gressel, Initial Teacher Education Programmes Officer - King's College London

Further information and support

School resource hub

UK Feminista has developed a free online resource hub for teachers, parents and students on tackling sexism in schools. To download resources visit:

ukfeminista.org.uk/resources-hub

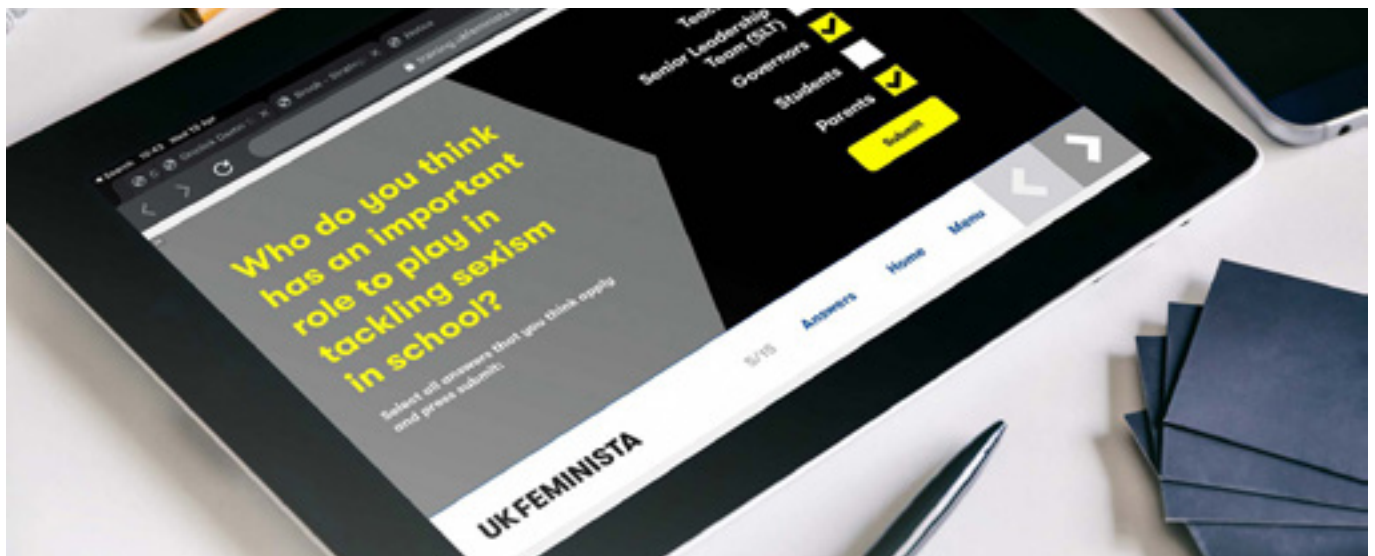
Teacher training

UK Feminista offers Continuing Professional Development training to enable schools and colleges to adopt a whole school approach to tackling sexism – including gender stereotyping, sexual harassment and sexist language. For more information visit:

ukfeminista.org.uk/resources/teachertraining

Get in touch

For further information about the online course email education@ukfeminista.org.uk



"This online resource is a vital tool in creating a more equitable society for everyone. The user is clearly guided through the ideas and challenged to unpack the maintenance of sexism within schools and society. The resources also contain practical advice and plenty of examples of positive current practice that should readily support students and teachers in taking direct action in schools. I would recommend this to both trainee and current teachers."

Dr Anna Llewellyn, Programme Director, Education Studies – Durham University