New online teachers resource
The Classroom
www.schools-out.org.uk/classroom

now in consultation stage with
Teachers of D&T (EYFS to KS5)
Your input is required for an exciting, and revolutionary resource.
This is your chance to improve the D&T profession.

What is The Classroom?
The Schools OUT Classroom is a brand new virtual learning environment. It is a training tool for the modern teacher that speaks from inside the classroom, rather than instructing from the staffroom. For the first time, The Classroom speaks to the disenfranchised D&T teacher, who supports diversity but whose subject provides scarce opportunity for it to happen. Most refreshingly, The Classroom recognises that whilst the duty of care for all teachers is the same, the appropriateness of teaching equality and diversity in each subject will vary; good news for the D&T teacher concerned about their contribution to the inclusive curriculum.

How?
The work is underpinned by School OUT’s unique teaching methodology which looks at ‘usualising’ and ‘actualising’ techniques. These methods, published for the first time with concrete examples, simplify previously complex issues in tackling homophobia/transphobia. It also has practical implications for the teaching any equality issues or difficult topic. The Classroom shows teachers examples of how challenging prejudice in this way will raise attainment and manage behaviour. The Classroom is also the dissemination of a new pedagogy that helps schools to succeed in navigating the new educational terrain of Public Duty responsibilities introduced by the Equality Act 2010 and supports the DFE anti-bulling advice just published.
Consulting who?
Teachers of D&T (EYFS to KS5) and subject associations. We are particularly keen on the views of professionals working in subjects where there are no clear links in the curriculum around tackling homophobia/transphobia e.g. PE, Maths, D&T, Modern Foreign Languages, Science, ICT, Geography and RE

Consulting on what?
1) The Schools OUT method of ‘Usualising’ as it pertains to their subject (more info on website)
2) Existing resources that teachers think will be excellent examples to share online.

How do I get involved?
We will guide you through the process of consultation. It is done online. www.schools-out.org.uk/classroom
The consultation will run its current form until 30th August 2011. However we will always be open to consultation.

Who are Schools OUT?
We believe that to reduce homophobia and transphobia, the lives and contributions of LGBT people need to be visible in education. This can be done by delivering the ‘broad and balanced national curriculum’ but only if the delivery is appropriate to and linked in to the subject skills being taught.

“For over 30 years Schools OUT has believed that it is through visibility that minority groups establish themselves in an individual’s world view. In the last 10 years there has been incredible work done to raise awareness of the issues of homophobia/transphobia in schools. We are now ready to change the landscape of equalities education once more and The Classroom hopes to lead the change. By offering a working methodology, we show teachers not only what to teach but how they could teach it. It is a shift that acknowledges that, whilst everyone has a part in educating young people about Lesbian Gay Bisexual Trans lives, this responsibility varies according to each subject and age range.”
Sue Sanders Co Chair

“Our methodology reduces the burden on teachers to deliver equality work that many feel is not part of their subject’s programme of study. For the first time, teachers in D&T can be reassured that they can embrace diversity not by an unreasonable focus on equal rights but by using use the skills and the subject knowledge they already have.” David Watkins, The Classroom’s Resident Teacher

Contact
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Officially endorsed by

[Images of TUC and NASUWT logos]
We embrace diversity, and bring the best out in everyone