

Good morning – it has come to my attention that the central library in Christchurch, Tūranga, may be offering an after-school programme devised for LGBTQ+ school students which is not transparent on Tūranga’s website, and not divulged to the attendees’ parents.

Instead, there is a suggestion that parents are being misled into believing that it is only an after-school craft programme, and not advised that there is a LGBTQ+ component embedded in it.

May I request information and answers pertaining to the below thirteen questions, including the sub-questions, on this matter, please. Where there is reference only to "the programme", this is to be taken as the LGBTQ+ programme mentioned in the opening sentence above.

1) Do you have an after school programme which is run at Turanga targeted towards LGBTQ+ school students. If so, what is it called, please?

As part of an informal relationship with InsideOut, Tūranga is currently piloting the hosting of an InsideOut provided drop-in opportunity. InsideOut refers to this as “Rainbow Drop-In”.

2) Can this programme be found on the Turanga library website? Please provide the link.

No.

3) If it’s not on the Turanga website, where can the information about it be accessed by potential attendees and/or their parents or guardians?

You can find this information by contacting InsideOut. Their website is here: [Home - InsideOUT |](#)

4) Who is the programme run by? Is there a payment made to this organisation for running the programme? If so, how much?

The activity is run by InsideOut. No payment is made to this organisation.

5) Please provide the content of the programme, or direct me to where it can be viewed.

Council does not hold this information. Please contact InsideOut for the requested details.

6) What age group attends the programme?

Secondary school ages.

7) What is the expected outcome of this programme for the attendees?

Social connection contributing to enhanced wellbeing for participants.

8) What information is provided to parents in order for them to give consent for their child/children to attend? Are parents able to view the programme material beforehand, or at any other time?

Please contact InsideOut for this information.

9) How are the school students made aware of this programme?

InsideOut distributes information to secondary school counsellors.

10) How do school students get a place on the programme?

This is a drop-in activity. Therefore no prior booking is needed.

11) What schools are registered with this programme?

Schools are not registered with the activity.

12) Whereabouts in the library is the programme held?

The activity takes place at various locations throughout Tūranga, including the Youth Space on Hapori, and the Activity Room, if it is not otherwise booked.

13) Does a counsellor attend the programme? If so, what is their role there?

An InsideOut staff member is present and hosts the programme for the young people.

Thank you and regards,

Katrina Biggs

Christchurch, NZ