

The PRIDE Project Newsletter (Dec '22)

The PRIDE Project's newsletters aim to keep our partners up to date with the project's progress and emerging results.

This is our fourth newsletter - December 2022.

In this issue

This edition brings you an overview of what we have been up to since September 2022:

- Progress to date
- Toolkit content
- Meet our contributors
- Let us know what you think!

We would also like to take a moment to acknowledge the importance of the Transgender Awareness week and Transgender Day of Remembrance that was celebrated last month.

Progress to date

As of December 2022, we have:

- Carried out two more co-design workshops with LGBTQI+ young people (12-19 years old) on how to best create our digital toolkit to enhance wellbeing, during September and October 2022.
- Continued the creative development of the toolkit alongside Bluestep Solutions, including selecting contributors, drafting content and organising the filming associated with the toolkit.
- Explored the possibility of two research papers. The first focuses on the qualitative analysis
 of our adult expert interviews to understand how LGBTQI+ youths can effectively manage
 their wellbeing and how to implement the toolkit in the real world. The second is a co-design
 paper narrating the key steps taken in the development of the toolkit and the selection of
 resilience and other strategies it offers.
- Add transgender awareness week and day of remembrance

Toolkit content

Last issue introduced you to the early creative development of the toolkit, which will focus on providing LGBTQI+ youths with practical coping strategies to enhance their wellbeing.

After developing a 'look and feel', we have now moved on to develop the toolkit's sitemap (see below), written content and audio-visual materials.

1. Creative development

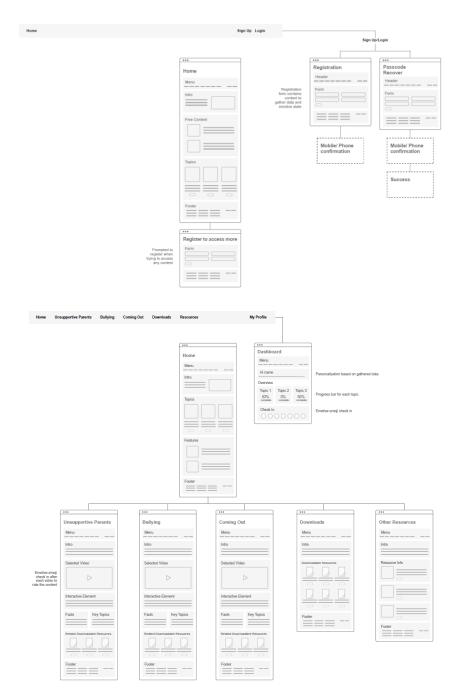
In the first phase of creative development, Bluestep has been working on designing a series of creative concepts for the toolkit, which seeks to be inclusive, positive, authentic, relatable, informative and supportive.

The PRIDE team, together with young people, has co-developed the following: a working title, colour schemes, concept toolkit artwork and video styling.



2. Sitemap

We have now developed the sitemap for our toolkit. A sitemap constitutes the website's basic framework, including an estimate of the number of webpages and the structure of the content within these webpages. Click on the image stack below to have a closer look!



3. Written content

We have also drafted some initial written content to fit the above sitemap, so we will have something to show LGBTQI+ young people in our next workshops.

Below is our first draft of a brief introduction:

Oneself will be an online resource to support the wellbeing of both LGBTQI+ young people and youth questioning their sexuality or gender. Adults interested in helping LGBTQI+ youth can use it too. The techniques and strategies in Oneself are based on real-world research and have been created with health and wellbeing experts.

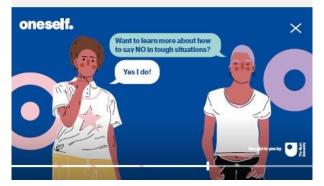
Oneself is free, so you can explore all the artwork, video clips and other content that was created together with LGBTQI+ young people.

The toolkit will be structured around three topic areas focusing on the things that can make a positive difference:

- 1. Parents and families
- 2. School
- 3. Coming out







4. Audio-visual materials

An important aspect of the toolkit will be its audio-visual materials consisting of videoclips and bespoke animations. For this, three LGBTQI+ contributors have been selected. Scroll down to read more about them.

Meet our contributors

After considerable discussion and feedback from LGBTQI+ young people, we have chosen our three toolkit contributors: Chloe, Lilly and Georgie. Contributors will feature in the toolkit's videoclips,

reflecting back on their experiences when they were LGBTQ+ youths a few years ago. You can meet them below!

Filming will take place at the end of November.

Chloe (she/they)

"I'm Chloe, 22 years old from Bedforshire. I work in London as a model. I identify as a lesbian and I first ever came out at 12!

I was drawn to this project as I believe it is super important for the younger LGBTQIA+ community to feel supported and comfortable in their sexuality and to be able to hear the voices and perspectives from queer people that may have once experienced similar. When I was younger, I would have benefited hugely from a resource like this, so it's wonderful I get to be part of it all!"



Lilly (she/her)

"My name is Lily, I'm 26 and I work in London as a model. I am pansexual, which means I am attracted to people regardless of their biological sex, gender or gender identity.

I was drawn to the project because I think Oneself is a resource that my younger self would have benefited from. I would have loved to have heard more queer perspectives and experiences growing up, which is why I felt it important to talk about mine."



Georgie (they/she/he)

"Hello, I am Georgie A.K.A. Triple Minor. I am a content creator and model of African descent and I am a trans non-binary fashion enthusiast.

The opportunity to be the much needed representation need in our community. I wanted to talk to you to ensure you know it gets better and you are loved."



Let us know what you think!

If you'd like to learn more about the project, do not hesitate to contact us. We are also really keen to get feedback about your ideas for future newsletters and what you think of our progress to date.

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Or visit us on the web at <u>The PRIDE Project | Faculty of Wellbeing, Education and Language Studies</u> (open.ac.uk).