



Champions For Change

Tackling Sectarianism



Our Task

How can we work together to lead changes that enable anti-sectarianism in our school - and in the wider community?

What is sectarianism?

What is our definition of sectarianism?

As a group we brought together our own individual views of sectarianism to create a meaningful definition for Trinity High School:

The division within society between people of different beliefs and the separation or isolation of people because of their beliefs.

Our Motivation

We recognise that sectarianism is a major problem in our school, community and country.

Our school in particular is portrayed in the media to be something which we, as a group, believe to be a false representation of what we are. Stories are often exaggerated in the local newspapers with stories of Trinity pupils fighting with other local schools over religion and football.

Out with Trinity, it is a major problem in the West of Scotland. In the five years before 2011, annually there were between 600 and 700 charges of an offence aggravated by religious prejudice in Scotland.

We want to bring about a change in attitudes for the better and give something positive which future pupils can take forward.

Our Aims

To tackle the problem we have set out short term, medium term and long term goals.

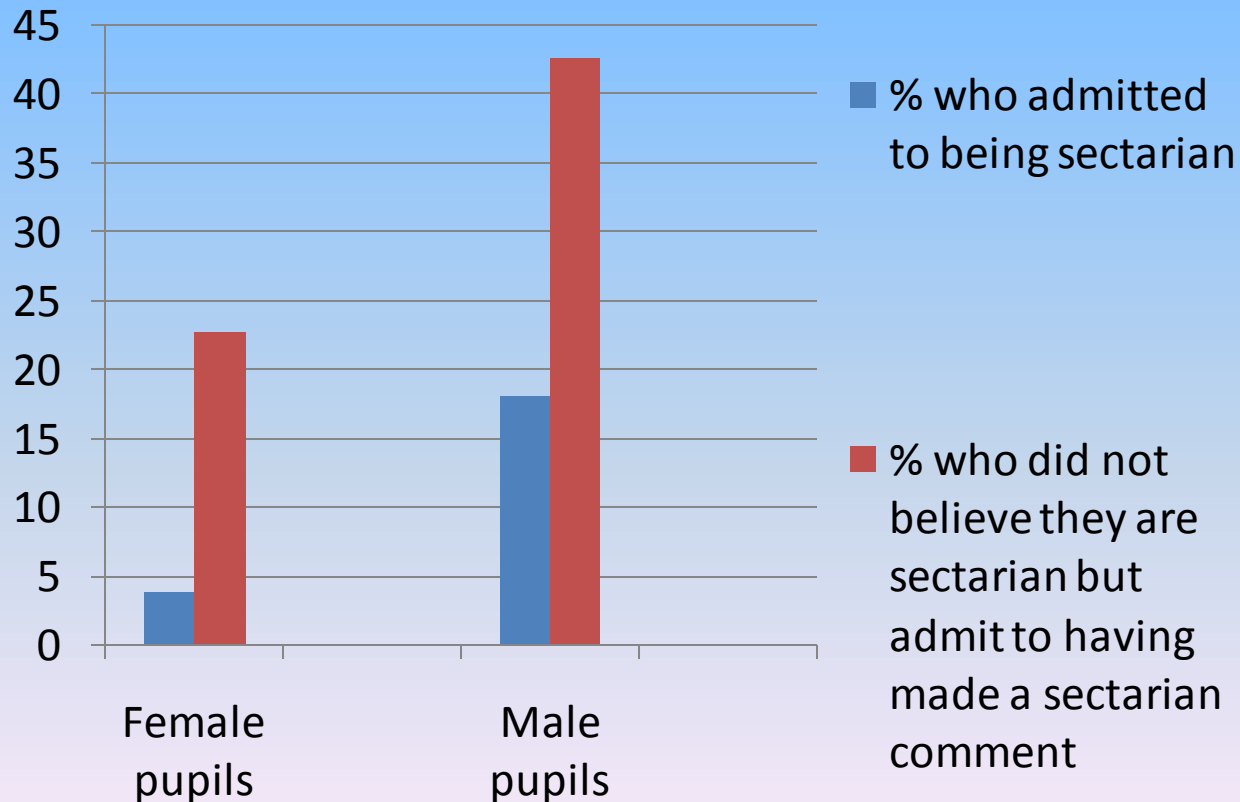
Short – To create a better understanding and educate on sectarianism, to make more people aware the consequences of sectarianism, to encourage a pupil voice, to break down the fear of ‘being wrong’

Medium - to gather enough knowledge and experience to educate others, encourage pupils to think from a different perspective, to create a better pupil/teacher relationship

Long – Realise the difference between humour and offence, embed a new ethos within the school, then other local schools, the local community, then the wider community

Our Findings

We created our own student questionnaire to gather information on Trinity High pupil's views on sectarianism. We discovered...



Our Plan...

- **Active Talks**

Draw up timetable of classes to be visited by pupils – who will be addressing classes.

- Survey Results

Use survey results as part of Active Talks by pupils in RE Classes.

- Publication of Survey results shared with: -

- School
- Parents
- Partners

- **Anti Sectarian Statement**

Use this document as basis for discussion by Active Talks Group and by way of: -

- Informing students of intended policy
- Raising awareness
- Gathering opinion etc. before finalising statement

Our Plan Cont...

- **Publicity Group**

Agreement among group on best poster to launch pupil initiative.

- Type and print A4 posters
- Explore costs of professionally produced poster for the Street Area.
- Examine ways of publicising the initiative for the wider community – Website, Posters, T-Shirts, and Newspapers.

- **Engagement with Staff**

Dec 17 – Coffee Morning with PTs to engage them in discussion re. Commitment to embedding anti sectarian education in subject.

Medium Term, Spring Term/Summer

- On-going discussion with PTs
- Involvement of Parents – Meeting of Parent Council and Members of Nil by Mouth Group.
- Taking the message beyond Trinity & Preparation of Plan for August.