Anti Bullying Week 2023
That's so gay

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Slide 2
What do people get bullied for? People might get bullied because of the colour of their skin, their gender, their religion, or who their family is. It is never ok to bully anyone, especially for these reasons, as they cannot and should not feel that they have to change them. Sometimes people use unkind words to talk about things. They might not think it's bullying, but it can hurt other people around them, without them even knowing.

Slide 3
A long time ago, the word gay meant happy and you might read some old books where it talks about people being 'merry and gay', which means that they were very happy. The word has changed meaning now and means when someone is attracted to the same gender. Like when a boy has a boyfriend or a girl has a girlfriend.
With the permission of the individual, you might want to reference individual members of staff who are gay

Slide 4
There are many people in the world who are gay. Sometimes we talk about LGBT people. The L means Lesbian and is when a girl is attracted to a girl. We know that G means Gay and is when someone is attracted to the same gender. The B means Bi and is when a girl or boy is attracted to girls and boys. The T means Transgender and is when someone was born a boy and now identifies as a girl, or vice versa.

Slide 5
Lil Nas X is a gay rapper. Zachary Quinto is a gay actor and has been in many famous films. She-Ra is an animated character who has a girlfriend and is a lesbian. Tom Daley is a gold medal winning diver and is gay. Miley Cyrus is a bi pop star. These are all very famous and successful people. Being LGBT is part of who they are, but it doesn't mean that they can't be successful.

Slide 6
You might have family members who are LGBT. You might also have some but you don't know. Some people like to keep these things private. Other people are more than happy to talk about it.

Slide 7
What does normal mean? Are any of us normal? The wonderful thing about us all is that we are all different and special in our own way. Just because someone is different to you, doesn't mean they are not normal. There's no such thing as normal.
Dr Seus wrote a poem that says: We are all a little weird and life's a little weird, and when we find someone whose weirdness is compatible with ours, we join up with them and fall in mutual weirdness and call it love.

Slide 8
Some people use 'gay' as a negative word, to describe something that they don't like. Why doesn't this make sense? How can these shoes be gay? *Depending on your audience, you could make a joke about them having 'shoefriends'.

Slide 9
When we use that's gay as an insult, what are we saying about gay people?
We are saying that gay is a bad thing. But gay people are people like everyone else.
It can be hurtful for gay people to hear because when people use 'gay' as an insult, it says that the way they are is a bad thing. You should never say it because it's hurtful and there might be someone gay around you who hears is and is hurt.

Slide 10
What should you do if you hear someone saying this? * At this point, you need to talk about how you deal with bullying and insults in your school. This should be treated in exactly the same way as any other prejudicial language. But the message needs to come across clearly that this is not acceptable and we shouldn't let people say it

Slide 11
Now it's time for you to reflect and think about what you have learnt today. Why shouldn't we use gay as an insult? What would you do if you heard someone say that something is gay?