

Timeline Activity

15 minutes, in small groups.

The task:

Arrange the 10 event cards in the correct order of when they occurred, then do your best to guess the correct year in which they happened.

- Give pupils 5 minutes to arrange the cards in order
- Give pupils 5 minutes to guess the correct year
- Bring the group together and give correct answers (page 2+3)
- Have a conversation as a group using the points/answers below

The answers:

We've included an in-depth timeline of events in Scotland, with the relevant answers in **bold**. You might want to share other facts from this timeline if time allows.

Use the results of the activity as a jumping off point for discussion:

- Are these milestones more or less recent than we presumed?
- Are you surprised that LGBT rights have only been protected in law for a relatively short time?
- Why is it important to understand our social history?

<p>Year: _____</p> <p>Scottish Transgender Alliance (STA) is founded to address issues of prejudice and the lack of information and support for transgender people in Scotland.</p>	<p>Year: _____</p> <p>Employment Equality Regulations make it unlawful for employers to discriminate on the grounds of sexual orientation.</p>
<p>Year: _____</p> <p>The European Court of Human Rights rules that the ban on homosexuals serving in the military is unlawful.</p>	<p>Year: _____</p> <p>The Equality Act is established to protect rights and advance equality of opportunity for all, covering sexual orientation and gender reassignment as well as race, religion and disability.</p>
<p>Year: _____</p> <p>The first same-sex marriages happen in Scotland, after the passing of the Marriage and Civil Partnerships Bill.</p>	<p>Year: _____</p> <p>Scotland's first formally organised Pride march in Edinburgh marches from Broughton Street to The Meadows.</p>
<p>Year: _____</p> <p>The Stonewall Youth Project is founded in Edinburgh, later to become LGBT Youth Scotland, working with LGBT young people all over the country.</p>	<p>Year: _____</p> <p>Lavender Menace opens in a basement on Forth Street, Edinburgh, becoming Scotland's first LGBT bookshop. It later moves to Dundas Street as 'West and Wilde'.</p>
<p>Year: _____</p> <p>The world first International Gay Rights Conference is held in Edinburgh University which sparked a spontaneous protest march from the venue to the BBC offices, becoming Scotland's first <i>unofficial</i> pride march.</p>	<p>Year: _____</p> <p>The Scottish Parliament passes the Ethical Standards in Public Life Act, which repeals Section 28.</p>

History of the Scottish LGBT movement

1969	The Scottish Minorities Group (SMG) is founded: Scotland's first gay rights group.
1970	The Gay Liberation Front (GLF), a more radical and militant group, is set up in Scotland.
1971	Aberdeen SMG (Scottish Minorities Group) is founded.
1971	The Traverse Theatre in Glasgow, as part of a series of debates called the "Traverse Trials", staged a debate on the motion that all discrimination against homosexuals should end. SMG and GLF join forces to argue the case.
1974	The world first International Gay Rights Conference is held in Edinburgh University, and a spontaneous protest from the university to the BBC offices in Queen Street, via the Scotsman, is Scotland's first unofficial pride march.
1974	Lothian Gay and Lesbian Switchboard (helpline) is launched, and the Edinburgh LGBT Centre at 58a/60 Broughton Street is founded.
1976	SMG women's group is founded.
1977	Glasgow LGBT Centre at 534 Sauchiehall Street Glasgow is founded.
1981	The Criminal Justice Act decriminalises sex between men in Scotland.
1982	SMG News becomes Gay Scotland.
1982	Lavender Menace opens in a basement on Forth Street, Edinburgh, becoming Scotland's first LGBT bookshop. It later moves to Dundas Street as West and Wilde.
1983	Scottish AIDS Monitor (SAM) is founded.
1983	The first Transvestite/Transsexual Group is founded and launches the magazine Tartan Skirt.
1983	The Edinburgh and Lothians Lesbian and Gay Youth Movement (ELLYM) is founded.
1984	The Edinburgh Bisexual Group is founded.
1985	Scotland's second Pride event is held in Edinburgh, with no march but a display of banners on The Mound.
1987	Several activists from Scotland attend a national conference on lesbian and gay rights in London before the General Election that year.
1988	The Local Government Act becomes law, with the infamous Section 28, banning "promotion of homosexuality".
1988	The Scottish Homosexual Action Group (SHAG) is founded in Edinburgh to campaign against "Clause 28".
1989	The Stonewall Youth Project is founded, later to become LGBT Youth Scotland.
1990	The Human Fertilisation and Embryology Act requires licensed fertility clinics to consider a child's "need for a father" when deciding whether or not to provide fertility treatment.
1991	Launch of fundraising and awareness raising for a Glasgow LGBT Centre, which later opens at 11 Dixon Street in 1995.
1994	The age of consent for gay men is reduced from 21 to 18.
1995	Scotland's first formally organised Pride march in Edinburgh marches from Broughton Street to The Meadows.
1996	Glasgow's first Pride march takes place, with a festival on Glasgow Green.
1996	The Fostering of Children (Scotland) Regulations make it unlawful for a local authority to place a child in foster care with a same-sex couple.
1997	The first 'Equality for All' conference is held in Edinburgh after the general election that year.
1998	The age of consent for gay men is reduced to 16.
1998	The Scotland Bill is amended to add sexual orientation to the Scottish Parliament's definition of equal opportunities, and to give the Parliament the power to legislate on equal opportunity law.
1998	Gay Dads Scotland is founded by Donald Reid and Dirk Geelen. There had been lesbian mothers' groups in Scotland for at least 20 years prior to this.
1999	The Bank of Scotland announces plans for a financial partnership with the homophobic US televangelist Pat Robertson. Mass protests include demonstrations at their historic headquarters on The Mound. Many LGBT people and allies, including trade unions and public sector organisations, threaten to withdraw their accounts, or actually do so. The deal falls through.

1999	The European Court of Human Rights rules that the ban on homosexuals serving in the military is unlawful.
2000	After months of bitter campaigning, the Scottish Parliament passes the Ethical Standards in Public Life etc. (Scotland) Act, which repeals Section 28. Other legislative achievements include the passing of the Adults with Incapacity (Scotland) Act, which recognised same-sex couples for the first time in Scots law; and the Standards in Scotland's Schools etc Act, which placed a duty on education authorities to encourage equality, including on the grounds of sexual orientation.
2001	The age of consent was equalised across the entirety of the UK.
2001	Beyond Barriers was founded: a 3-year project to promote LGBT equality and diversity across Scotland.
2001	The first Pride in Aberdeen is held in Duthie Park.
2003	The Employment Equality (Sexual Orientation) (Amendment) Regulations make it unlawful for employers to discriminate on the grounds of sexual orientation.
2003	First legal recognition in Scotland of a same-sex couple and their children as a family: two lesbian mothers get parental rights and responsibilities for each other's child.
2004	The Gender Recognition Act gives transgender people the right to full legal recognition, including a changed birth certificate.
2005	The Civil Partnership Act becomes law and the first same-sex couples in Scotland register on the 20 th of December.
2006	The Family Law (Scotland) Act gives same-sex couples who live together the same legal rights as mixed-sex couples (with the exception of adoption, fostering and parental rights following fertility treatment).
2006	The LGBT Centre is launched in Dumfries and Galloway.
2007	The Equality Act (Sexual Orientation) Regulations ban discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation in the provision of goods, facilities and services in the UK.
2007	The Scottish Transgender Alliance is founded to address issues of prejudice and the lack of information and support for transgender people in Scotland. This is the first time a transgender rights project has been funded by any central government in Europe.
2008	Dumfries and Galloway host their first Pride at Park Farm.
2008	The Sex Discrimination (Amendment) Regulations extend protection from discrimination on grounds of gender reassignment by banning direct discrimination and harassment by most providers of goods, facilities and services in the UK.
2009	The Human Fertilisation and Embryology Act becomes law. A child conceived in a same-sex relationship after April 2009 can be born with two mothers.
2009	The Sentencing of Offences Aggravated by Prejudice (Scotland) Act becomes law, recognising homophobic hate crime in Scotland and recognising transphobic hate crime for the first time in the wider UK.
2009	The Adoption and Children (Scotland) Act 2007 becomes law, meaning the fostering regulations introduced in 1996 are repealed and same-sex couples have the same right to be assessed as adoptive parents as mixed-sex couples do.
2010	The Equality Act came into force on 1 October 2010, bringing together over 116 separate pieces of legislation into one single Act. The Act provides a legal framework to protect the rights of individuals and advance equality of opportunity for all, covering sexual orientation and gender reassignment as well as race, religion and disability.
2013	The Scottish Government introduce the Marriage and Civil Partnerships (Scotland) Bill to the Scottish Parliament. A majority of members of the Scottish Parliament had declared their support for same-sex marriage, including the then leader of every party in Parliament.
2014	The bill received royal assent as the Marriage and Civil Partnership (Scotland) Act 2014 on 12 March 2014 and the first same-sex marriages occurred on 31 December 2014.
2016	At an LGBTI hustings event (a meeting in which candidates in an election address potential voters), First Minister Nicola Sturgeon pledges to reform the Gender Recognition Act and consider equal recognition for non-binary people.
2019	LGBT Youth Scotland celebrate 30 years of work, supporting LGBTI young people in Scotland.
2020	20 years since the repeal of Section 28.