



Pronoun Guide

WHAT ARE PRONOUNS?

Pronouns are a small number of words used in place of a noun. Pronouns are a way people can refer to each other or themselves, when not using their name. The most used pronouns are personal pronouns which include 1st, 2nd, and 3rd person.

Pronouns are often used to indicate a person's gender; however, we often make assumptions about people's genders and assign them pronouns, based on what we can see or based on their name, and sometimes this is incorrect.

WHY IS USING THE RIGHT PRONOUNS IMPORTANT?

Using the language people ask us to use for them is not only polite, but the right thing to do. Whether someone is using new language for the first time, or has been using it for years, it's just as important to make sure the ways we refer to them are correct and affirming. Using the right pronoun for a person is one of the easiest ways of showing them respect.

DIFFERENT TYPES OF PRONOUNS

Pronouns are generally grouped by whether they are 'gendered' or 'gender-neutral'.

Gendered pronouns include:

- he/him/his
- she/her/hers

Gender-neutral pronouns include:

- they/them/theirs

Gender-neutral pronouns are a polite and easy way to refer to someone whose gender you're unsure of.

Some people use neo-pronouns, such as:

- xe/xem/xir
- ze/hir/hirs
- ey/em/eir
- ve/ver
- zie/zim

Neo (or new) pronouns may be used as an alternative to ‘they’.

Some people use multiple pronouns or ‘rolling’ pronouns, such as:

- she/her
- she/they
- he/they

People may use multiple pronouns for several reasons. Sometimes gender-fluid individuals might want to use different pronouns on different days depending on how they are feeling about their identity. Because gender is a spectrum and people can feel like multiple or no genders, rolling pronouns might feel more comfortable than a singular one.

WAYS TO GET INVOLVED

The Pride Club aims to provide a safe and inclusive space for LGBTQIA+ students! Pride Club run fortnightly afternoon teas and collaborative events with Flinders and UniSA to make sure members are connected with the queer community.



Interested in becoming an ALLY? Join the ALLY Network to promote an inclusive and respectful university environment for all who identify as being lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex, queer/questioning, asexual, or others.



STUDENT HEALTH AND WELLBEING



uoastudentwellbeing



Student Health and Wellbeing



adelaide.edu.au/student/wellbeing

FOR MORE INFORMATION

transhub.org.au

prideinhealth.com.au

prideinclusionsprograms.com.au

diversitycenterneo.org