I. Nature and Scope of Homophobic and Transphobic Violence
Violence in educational settings is a global issue faced by all countries. Children who are LGBTI (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender or Intersex) - or are perceived to be - report a higher prevalence of violence than their peers, and feel unsafe at school. A large percentage of LGBTI young people around the world experience homophobic and transphobic violence at school. This is more likely to happen in school than at home, with friends, or in their community.

II. Consequences for LGBTI Students
This violence impacts LGBTI children and young people in many ways. They are more likely to:

- It may impact their physical and mental health, and cause:
  - low self-esteem
  - depression
  - anxiety
  - fear
  - stress
  - loss of confidence
  - academic
  - mental

- have lower academic achievement
- drop out
- skip school
- avoid school activities
- miss class
- think about or attempt suicide

III. Education Sector Response: How Can We End Homophobic and Transphobic Violence?
Few countries have comprehensive education sector responses in place to prevent and address homophobic and transphobic violence in educational settings. The education sector has a responsibility to provide safe and inclusive learning environments that enable all children and young people access to quality education.

The education sector's response should be:
- protect the human rights of all LGBTI students and those perceived not to conform to sexual or gender norms
- address needs and experiences of all LGBTI students
- involve LGBTI students in the design, implementation and evaluation of policies and programs
- draw on scientific evidence and expert opinion
- align with students' actual and developmental age
- include all gender identities and challenge gender-related stereotypes
- tailor to social, cultural and legal contexts

We need a comprehensive, whole-school response that includes:

- Education ministries
- Local education officials
- Schools
- Curriculum developers
- School nurses
- Teachers
- Students
- Parents
- Community

Effective policies, relevant curricula and learning materials, training for school staff, support for students and families, strategic partnerships, monitoring and evaluation.

With support from Norway and The Netherlands.

For more information, see http://bit.ly/1OdMi3t

Source: Out In The Open - Education sector responses to violence based on sexual orientation and gender identity/expression, © UNESCO, 2016