

## **Gender Terms:**

### **Gender Dysphoria**

A person with gender dysphoria may feel that they have a gender identity which is different from their anatomical sex – i.e. that they have been born into a body of the wrong sex. As a result, the person may suffer significant anxiety and distress and may wish to undergo gender reassignment.

### **Transsexual person**

A transsexual person is someone who wishes to alter their body to completely resemble the sex which they feel that they belong to – i.e. the opposite gender to the one which they were born with. This process is called gender reassignment and will involve the person receiving hormones and undergoing surgery.

Before a transsexual person can undergo surgery to reassign their gender, they are required to receive counselling. They will also have to live in their chosen gender on a full time basis with a new name and official documents to show that they have changed their gender - this process is known as the real life test.

### **Transgender person**

A transgendered person is someone who adopts the characteristics of the opposite sex. A transgendered person may change their appearance by wearing clothing worn by the opposite gender. Some transgendered people will take hormones, or may undergo surgery - although they will not undergo full genital reassignment surgery. Other people may choose not to undergo any medical treatment before adopting their new identity and will simply begin living their life in their new gender.

### **Gender Reassignment**

Gender reassignment is the process which is undertaken in order to reassign a person's sex. The term applies to the process of acquiring a different gender, irrespective of whether this involves surgery.