# **Student Voice Fundamentals**

Webinar 1 of 4 in VicSRC's Teach the Teacher series

Supported by the Victorian Department of Education and Training



## Student Voice Fundamentals: Key Question

How do we encourage teachers to be truly open to receiving and acting on feedback from students?

- Talk with students and educators about how to frame and receive feedback in a positive way
- Encourage a culture of lifelong learning and continual improvement
- Present the process and feedback in a way that is positive and collaborative
- Lead by example to demonstrate how it can be done
- Acknowledge that it can be intimidating no one really enjoys receiving feedback!

"Understanding that we might be equally as nervous or intimidated to tell you what we really think - it goes both ways - and just having that open conversation with your students in a no judgement zone"

- Sienna, VicSRC Student Executive Advisory Committee member



#### **About VicSRC**

#### **Our Vision**

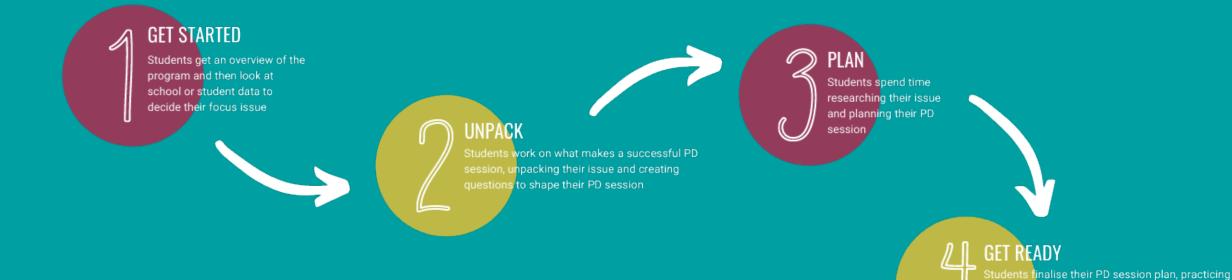
Education that's flexible, relevant and includes all students in all decisions.

#### **Our Mission**

We stand with and for students to elevate their voices to be heard.







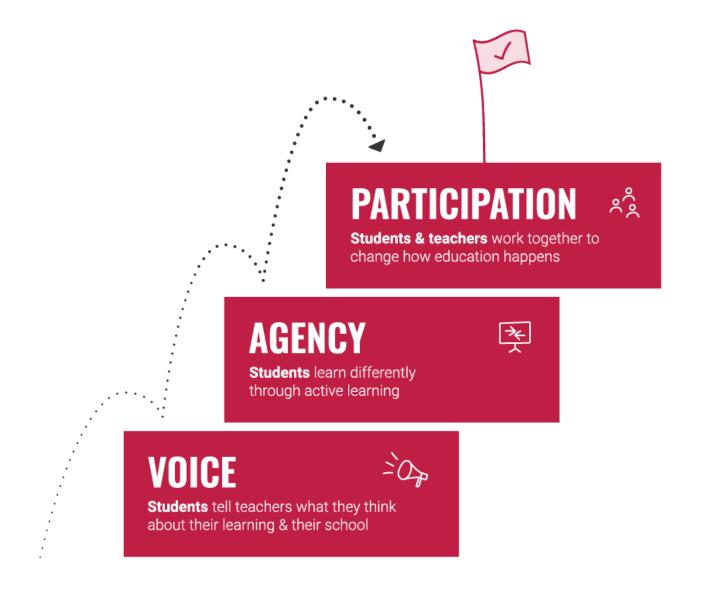
### **Teach the Teacher**



VicSRC VictorianStudent
RepresentativeCouncil

TEACH THE TEACHER

facilitation and engagement techniques









Who benefits?



VicSRC VictorianStudent RepresentativeCouncil

#### Student voice in the classroom

- Formally adopt a regular program of eliciting student feedback on curriculum content, processes, pedagogy and assessment
- Seek and include student views and priorities in curriculum planning and assessment
- Initiate a form of peer- or cross-age tutoring within the school



# Student leadership or representative teams

- Engage your student representative group in discussion about the role students can and should have within the school, and how this can happen
- Engage your student representative group in discussion about expectations, behaviour, mutual respect—and their roles in this area
- Create Student Action Teams around issues of interest and concern to both students and the wider community



#### Extra curricular activities

- Support a group of students to produce the school newsletter on behalf of the school
- Explicitly challenge and invite students not otherwise engaged to lead roles of investigation and recommendation
- Build partnerships with local organisations such as Aged Care, Men's Shed, Neighbourhood House—where students can undertake collaborative projects





## School governance and leadership

- Engage your student representative group in discussion about the school's criteria for practice excellence, of learning teaching approaches and of assessment
- Establish a Student Action Team to investigate responses to data collected, such as the meaning and implications of Student Survey data
- Engage your student representative group and student leaders in discussion about the school's leadership approaches





#### Where to Start

- ✓ Build on what is already happening at your school
- ✓ Start by talking with and listening to students
- Support students to identify an area to work on at your school that will create a positive change
- ✓ Keep it small but impactful to start with
- ✓ As you see positive changes, use this success to involve more students and teachers

