



## 5.1 VISION STATEMENT



<b>Time required</b>	75 minutes (50 + 15 minutes for the poster)
<b>Adapted from</b>	ruMAD? Program, Foundation for Young Australians
<b>Grade level</b>	7 - 8
<b>Resources required</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>List of things students would like to improve at the school from the workshop (List from Key 3)</li> <li><i>Freedom to Feel Fantastic</i> (3 minutes)  <a href="https://youtu.be/hFaRGAAsJc">https://youtu.be/hFaRGAAsJc</a> or other short videos of action projects by young people from The Propeller Fund  <a href="https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL90RzdOo8OsVq4g36N NpuDLM TfwOLQgl">https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL90RzdOo8OsVq4g36N NpuDLM TfwOLQgl</a> or videos of other inspiring young people e.g. Malala Yousafzai, Craig Kielburger, Tara Winkler, Ryan Hreljac.</li> </ul>
<b>Aims</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To understand that it is possible for young people to create positive change and to explore the key factors involved.</li> <li>To develop a vision statement for the group that addresses students' concerns around discrimination and bullying.</li> </ul>
<b>Procedure</b>	<p><b>1. What is a vision statement? Why is it important?</b></p> <p>Show the Tasmanian video, <a href="#">Fresh Faced Friday</a>, or a similar inspiring video of a young person creating change.</p> <p><b>Class discussion</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What was the vision for the project?</li> <li>What change did they want to create?</li> <li>What motivated them?</li> <li>What was their plan of action? What/who helped?</li> <li>How sustainable is the project/change?</li> <li>What makes a good vision statement?</li> </ul> <p><b>Look at examples of vision statements</b> from organisations such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Save the Children: <i>A world in which every child attains the right to survival, protection, development and participation.</i>  <a href="https://www.savethechildren.org.au/about-us/">https://www.savethechildren.org.au/about-us/</a></li> <li>Google: To provide access to the world's information in one click.</li> </ul>

<https://mission-statement.com/google/>

- Fred Hollows Foundation: *Putting an end to avoidable blindness.*  
[www.hollows.org/au/what-we-do](http://www.hollows.org/au/what-we-do)
- Amazon: To be earth's most customer-centric company; to build a place where people can come to find and discover anything they might want to buy online.  
<https://www.aboutamazon.co.uk/uk-investment/our-mission>
- Tasmania Police: *A safe, secure and resilient Tasmania.*  
<https://www.police.tas.gov.au/uploads/Tasmania-Police-Business-Priorities-2020-21.pdf>

## 2. Creating our own vision statement

Do either the visualisation exercise below or the alternative activity.  
Review the class poster of things the students would like to improve at the school from Key 3.

Explain that the class is now going to create a vision statement based on their perfect world – a world where their issues no longer exist.

Discuss and list ideas on the board:

- What do you value? What's most important to you? relationships, etc.
- What would your perfect school and community look like and feel like if your issues no longer existed?
- Can you think of alternatives to negatives? Instead of "there will be no bullying", try a positive such as "it will be peaceful".

Do your best to describe that world in positive words or images.  
Students could draw a picture or do a Y-chart. (Key 3.1)

Put the following statement on the board and brainstorm ways to complete it using the key ideas already on the board.

'Our vision is for a school community where...'

The vision statement should be positive, inspiring and big, for example:

- Everyone, young and old, feels safe.
- Everyone cares for and respects one another, is friendly, compassionate and treats others as equals.
- Cultural differences are celebrated, and everyone experiences friendship.

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- People experience freedom to have fun, to be loved and to experience joy.

Work on the wording until everyone in the class is happy with it.

**Record the vision statement.**

OR

**Alternative visualisation exercise**

Review the class poster of things the students would like to improve at the school from Key 3.2

Explain that the class is now going to create a vision statement based on their perfect world – a world where their issues no longer exist.

Explain that this is a totally SILENT activity. Students should collect their journals, find a quiet place on their own, and shut their eyes.

Ask students to imagine what their school day would be like if all the issues identified were solved i.e. there was no discrimination, bullying or harassment. What would people be doing? How would they be acting? What would the physical environment look like? We call this the Miracle Question – life in a perfect world.

Imagine yourself getting out of bed in the morning, eating and leaving home...

- How would you feel? How would the trip to school be? Who would you meet? What would they be doing? How would they relate to you?

Imagine yourself arriving at school...

- How would you feel? Who would you meet? What would they be doing? How would they relate to you?

Imagine yourself going to class...

- How would you feel? Who would you meet? What would they be doing? How would they relate to you?

Imagine yourself going into the playground...

- How would you feel? Who would you meet? What would they be doing? How would they relate to you?

Imagine yourself going home at the end of the school day...

- How would you feel? Who would you meet? What would they be doing? How would they relate to you?

Ask students to open their eyes and - still silent - write 3 ways that things would be different (look like, feel like, sound like) in their journal or do a Y-chart.

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	<p>List these key ideas on half of the board.</p> <p>Explain that the class is now going to create a vision statement based on what they have visualised. The vision statement will represent a perfect world where the issues students have identified do not exist.</p> <p>Put the following statement on the board and brainstorm ways to complete it using the key ideas already on the board from the visualisation.</p> <p>‘Our vision is for a school community where...’</p> <p>The vision statement should be positive, inspiring and big, for example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Everyone, young and old, feels safe.</li> <li>■ Everyone cares for and respects one another, is friendly, compassionate and treats others as equals.</li> <li>■ Cultural differences are celebrated, and everyone experiences friendship.</li> <li>■ People experience the freedom to have fun, to be loved and to experience joy.</li> </ul> <p>Work on the wording until everyone in the class is happy with it.</p> <p><b>Record the vision statement.</b></p> <p><b>Take Action activity</b></p> <p>For the Take Action activity in this Key, students create and display posters of their vision.</p>
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**Teacher note**

The following vision statement from a Rose Bay High grade 7 class in 2015 unintentionally offered a range of statements that mapped remarkably well against Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs.

Need	Vision Statement
Self-actualisation	Everyone works hard to be who they are.
Esteem	We have pride in our school – it is nice/modern/no damage, we have a team spirit, you can feel OK about yourself even if you are different (My interpretation from the statement "sexuality doesn't matter.")
Love/belonging	This is the right place to be, feel comfortable and happy, positive environment, people being nice, you have friends that look out for you and you can be who you are with them.
Safety	Nothing to be scared of, safety is assured, peaceful, fairness, people treating you well.
Physiological	Drugs and alcohol were never invented, sexuality doesn't matter.

In a later model of Maslow's Hierarchy another category is put on the top – self-transcendence, which is about helping others and generosity. The intention of the *Let's Get Together* program is to help students to do this. Discussing Maslow's model with students might help them to realise that they are tuning into basic human needs