

Amplify (Student Voice Agency and Leadership) Implementation

OVERVIEW

Amplify is a student voice, agency and leadership practice guide.

The guide gives school professionals and students an opportunity to have conversations, collaborate and take actions to empower students, whatever their current starting point.

Amplify complements the Framework for Improving Student Outcomes (FISO) and Victorian Teaching and Learning Model (VTLM) resources, establishing the central role student voice, agency and leadership have in improving student outcomes.

For teachers, Amplify represents an opportunity to reflect on the current status of student voice, agency and leadership in their classrooms. The definitions, strategies and practice examples included in Amplify will assist teachers to identify improvement opportunities and implementation ideas.

School leaders can assist teachers to establish a culture where all school community members value and contribute to the advancement of student voice, agency and leadership.

Theory of Change – Amplify

If schools use Amplify and the matching FISO and VTLM resources to review school-wide practices and strengthen student voice, agency and leadership

Then effective student-teacher partnerships for learning will develop

so that students have a strong sense of agency in their learning, increased commitment and strengthened focus on their learning, and a positive cycle of learning and development.

EVIDENCE BASE

There is strong evidence that students become more engaged in learning when they have opportunities to:

- exercise agency in their own learning
- contribute to the communities in which they learn
- improve the learning program for themselves and their peers.

Research findings indicate that student voice, agency and leadership have a positive impact on self-worth, engagement, purpose and academic motivation¹, which contribute to improved student learning outcomes².

KEY LINKS

- [Amplify](#)
- [VTLM](#)
- [Professional Practice Note 12 and 14 on student voice, agency and leadership](#)

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Why empower students?

Students who have the opportunity to exercise voice, agency and leadership in designing, developing and assessing their own learning, have a greater chance of becoming resilient and independent learners, leading to improved academic outcomes, health and wellbeing.

What do teachers do to empower students?

Effective teachers enable students to be active participants in their learning. They are responsive to student feedback and adapt their teaching practice to suit the needs of all students. Through a process of gradual release of responsibility, teachers equip students with the skills they need to become engaged and self-directed learners.

¹ Quaglia Institute for School Voice and Aspirations. (2016). *School Voice Report*. Corwin Press, Thousand Oaks, CA. http://quagliainstitute.org/dmsView/School_Voice_Report_2016

² Hattie, J. (2009). *Visible learning: A Synthesis of Over 800 Meta-Analyses Relating to Achievement*. Routledge, Milton Park, UK.

What do school leaders do to empower students?

School leaders create and maintain a shared vision and a safe learning environment for all the members of the school community. A climate for learning that is respectful, trusting and collaborative recognises that student empowerment enhances the work of teachers. In this environment and through the establishment of the appropriate structures, processes and practices students, teachers and the wider school community can develop the skills and willingness to collaborate and contribute to creating genuine student empowerment opportunities.

PROGRESS TO DATE

Amplify (draft for consultation) released Jun 2018

Establish Learning Labs Jul 2018

Professional learning for school leaders (Area Principal Forums) Aug 2018

Release of Professional Practice Note 12: Amplify literacy learning with student voice Feb 2019

Release of Professional Practice Note 14: Using metacognitive strategies to support student self-regulation and empowerment Mar 2019

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES AND MILESTONES

Learning Labs evaluation report Oct 2019

Release of Amplify tools and resources Nov 2019