



Visioning - for teachers

What is a vision?

A vision is a positive statement about how we want our future (usually five years ahead) to be. Visions are often personal, but groups of people often form a collaborative vision to help guide their collective actions and behaviours.

Why is a vision important?

A vision is important as it motivates people to behave in a certain way. A vision means that more people are likely to participate in the desired behaviour as they can 'see' what the intended future is. Having a collaborative vision also means that everyone is working towards achieving the same future. This is a great way to bring about change and similar behaviours among numerous people.

What is an example of a vision?

Martin Luther King is an excellent example of a visionary who changed the behaviours and attitudes of people and worked towards achieving a new future.

UNESCO has also developed a vision for the UN Decade of Education for Sustainable Development.

An example vision of a litter-free school community could be:

'Our school looks clean, has happy people, and everyone feels comfortable.'

Forming a personal vision

When forming a vision it is important to keep in mind the headings 'Feels like', 'Sounds like', and 'Looks like', as these help to guide the process. Creating a personal vision is not about finding the 'right' answer; it is how you would like to see your future. It is important to record your personal vision, so you can revisit it at any time.

Collaborating to form a class vision in your school

Forming a class vision begins with discussion of personal visions. Small groups should share their visions and create a list of words that are common to each. Combine these to form a statement which becomes a group vision.

Small groups then share their group visions. Repeat the process above (listing common words and forming statements) and eventually a class vision will emerge.

The class vision should be shared with the school and community through posters, poems, songs, presentations etc. Sharing the vision with others is a great way to stay on track and achieve your goals.