



Emmaus College – Winner P - 12

Q1: What was your initiative or project about?

Briefly describe the initiative or project. How did your school become aware of the issue or opportunity? Which Wish for Education did it address?

At Emmaus College, student voice is a core value and priority. 2 Years ago, we began our Student Voice embedded practice where we have dedicated student voice teams from each year level. At regular intervals in the year the students come together in a discussion forum to share their voice on all aspects of the college. We also hold panel discussions for different events or projects that appear during the year. For example, in our RAP consultation process we gathered our Student Voice Teams to ensure we gain their voice on the Reconciliation Action Plan as well. Our Student Voice addresses all of the Wishes for Education as we focus on the whole child and their whole experience while at school. Our Student Voice is embedded with the Annual Plan and Explicit Improvement Agendas.

Q2: How did you bring the initiative or project to life?

Explain how students and staff worked together to plan and implement the project. What roles did students play?

When creating our student voice teams, students were given the opportunity to nominate to join, and staff also worked together to select students to ensure we had a complete cross section of students to share their voice. At each of the Student Voice meetings, staff bring questions and topics that we would like student voice on and there are also opportunities for students to bring up topics and ideas that are important to them.

In terms of the video itself, it was completely student led; they developed the idea for the structures and how each of the scenes would look to demonstrate all the Student Voice Initiatives in the school.

Q3: What made it successful?

What positive changes or outcomes did you see for students? How did it improve their experience at school?

Our student voice is successful because it is based on student ideas and feedback, as staff we have been able to implement real change for the students to positively improve their lives at school. They felt heard, saw change, and recognised that we really do care about them and want to make the school suit students.

Q4: What would you do differently next time?

If another school wanted to run a similar project, what advice would you give them? What lessons did you learn?

Our student voice is not a one-off project; it is a permanent, embedded commitment to consistently use student voice to inform our decisions and make our school a place where we have built student agency. Students at Emmaus are empowered to take responsibility for their own learning and develop leadership skills to advocate for themselves and their peers.

School: Emmaus College Jimboomba
Voice

Project/Initiative Title: Student