

STEP 1: IDENTIFY YOUR ISSUE

Brainstorm at least three issues that you think are affecting your school or community. Think about things that might upset you or your friends and that you wish were different. Then answer the questions for each issue to figure out how important it is.

Question	Issue 1	Issue 2	Issue 3
Does this issue affect a lot of people? How many?			
How does this issue affect the community?			
Are people's rights being affected? How?			
Do other people think this is an issue? Who? Why?			
How long has this been an issue?			

Which issue will you focus on and why?

STEP 2: GATHER YOUR EVIDENCE

To help you come up with solutions to your issue you need to try to understand your issue in as much detail as possible. Answer the following questions and if you're not sure about the answer do some further research online or by asking friends and family what they think!

The issue:

What is happening? (Describe the issue)

Who is being affected?

Why do you think this issue is happening?

Why do you care about this issue?

STEP 3: CREATE POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS

Now is the time to figure out what you can do to try and make a change! Use the following questions to help you imagine what could be done.

What needs to change to improve the situation?	What are our ideas for making this change?	Who could we ask to help us solve this issue?	What would we say to them to convince them this is important?

STEP 4: PUT IT INTO ACTION

Take your top three solutions and research to the people who have the power to make these changes. This could be within your school (your principal, school council or teachers) or it could be in your community (your local council, local member of parliament or local businesses that could help). It's good to present more than one idea to the people who have the power so there are opportunities for discussion.

For help with action planning, use the ALTER resources on VicSRC's [Student Voice Hub](#).