

Education Research Update

A knowledge sharing initiative by the Office for Education Policy and Innovation

Student voice

Review and additional resources

This issue of *Research eLert Extra* supplements Issue No. 11 of the *Research eLert*, which explored the concept of 'student voice'.

Student voice: *Research eLert* Issue No. 11

Student Voice: A historical perspective and new directions explores the concept of 'student voice'. Part 1 examines student voice from a historical perspective and summarises the findings of Australian and international research. Part 2 is a review of how Australian jurisdictions are promoting student voice and includes a range of initiatives within the Victorian education system that are contributing to improved teaching and learning, and teacher-student relationships.

Additional resources

[Listening to children and young people](#) Since 1989 there have been major developments within research and public policy which not only capture how children and young people in the UK use student voice, but also empower them to use it. The National Foundation for Educational Research website provides a range of examples of projects involving the ideas, opinions and viewpoints of children and young people.

[Roger Holdsworth](#) is a Senior Research Associate at the Youth Research Centre at the University of Melbourne. He is especially interested in the development of programs that are supportive of active youth and student participation, particularly in schools. He is editor and publisher of [Connect](#), a bi-monthly newsletter about youth participation in education.

[Washington youth voice handbook](#) This handbook discusses the what, why, who, when, where and how of youth voice, and describes strategies for fostering youth voice including activities and workshops. This publication is a resource for young people, youth workers, teachers, and anyone else interested in truly empowering youth to make a difference.

[Children's participation: From tokenism to citizenship](#) In this UNICEF paper, Professor Roger Hart develops a widely used conceptual model for youth participation called the 'Ladder of Participation' based on the premise that participation is a fundamental right of citizenship. Hart uses the analogy of a ladder to describe progressive levels of participation in society; and argues for increasing the opportunities for children to participate in any aspiring democracy, particularly in those nations already convinced they are democratic.

Further information

Key links

- [Research eLert, Issue 11, Student Voice \(PDF - 207Kb\)](#)
- [Student Voice: A historical perspective and new directions, Paper No. 10, April 2007 \(PDF - 396Kb\)](#)
- [Student Voice: Further reading list \(PDF - 43Kb\)](#)

Research summaries webpage

The Research Branch undertakes local and international scans to identify research areas of interest for Victorian education. Selected summaries are available at: <http://www.education.vic.gov.au/studentlearning/research/researchsummaries.htm>

Teachers as Researchers database

This database comprises a range of essential readings, key research organisations, and recommended publications and can be accessed on line at: http://www.eduweb.vic.gov.au/edulibrary/public/publ/research/publ/Teachers_as_Researchers_TPL_FinalDoc_V7.pdf

Contact us or subscribe

To contact the Research Branch or to subscribe to *Research eLert* or *Research eLert Extra* email the Research Branch at: research@edumail.vic.gov.au