

18 in '18

In 2018 the first generation of young people born in the 21st century will become adults.

701,900 18 year olds will enter an adult society that is completely different to that of their parents, and totally unrecognisable to their grandparents.

Every aspect of our lives has undergone seismic change over the past half century and this trend seems to be accelerating. Yet the ways in we educate young people and the systems and structures we use to govern and manage our society have barely changed in 150 years.

Changemakers believes that major change is needed if we want to ensure that the 2018 generation can make a positive and continuing contribution to society.

Our vision and mission

Our vision for 2018 is a society of engaged citizens and creative leaders.

Our mission is to enable young people aged 4-25 to make a positive and continuing contribution to society in order to give society credible hope in the next generation to be engaged citizens and creative leaders.

We fulfil our mission by:

1. Developing sustainable approaches to working with young people on the ground through:
 - Cultural change programmes in organisations that engage with young people
 - Training and developing those working with young people
 - Working directly with young people
2. Influencing public policy through:
 - Understanding and promoting the strategic, operational and tactical significance of what emerges from our work with young people on the ground
 - Connecting decision makers to enable them to see the bigger picture
 - Enlisting and developing advocates for our cause

Our themes

We need to capture hearts and minds and ensure that young people are equipped with the skills and enthused with the passion to play an active role in society. This demands a new approach to how we structure and manage our **schools**.

Skills and passion are important, but they count for nothing if our society's decision making systems and structures work against genuine active participation. We must therefore create vibrant new approaches to **civic engagement**.

Our philosophy

1. We work with young people in a spirit of **natural collaboration**. We believe in young people's inherent capacity to make a positive and continuing contribution to society but we reject traditionally tokenistic notions of youth consultation and participation.

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enterprising minds, active citizens, future leaders

2. We believe that **facilitation**, as opposed to direction, is the approach that should underpin our schools and civic engagement structures in order to ensure that the 2018 generation can play a positive, active and rewarding role in society.