



COMMON GROUND

FUTURE FIT
MASCULINITIES

TERM TWO UPDATE



TERM TWO WRAP

Making strides

Term two has seen the Common Ground Project continue to grow and deepen its impact across our four partner schools.

Building on a strong and energising start to the year, this term was all about gaining momentum and embedding the work in more meaningful and lasting ways.

We've seen greater student engagement, strong feedback from parents and teachers, and a powerful shift in connection, empathy and cultural awareness among young people.

We're excited to carry this energy into Term Three as the journey continues.

- THE COMMON GROUND PROJECT TEAM

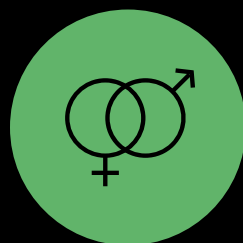


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OVERVIEW



Tomorrow Man and Tomorrow Woman returned to deliver module two workshops with Year 10 and 11 students. These sessions created space for students to speak honestly, acknowledge one another, and build a deeper sense of connection and empathy within their year group.



The +M five-lesson curriculum has now been implemented by educators with students in Years 7 to 9. These lessons explore the attitudes and behaviours that sit beneath gender-based violence, including an understanding of gender norms and healthy expressions of masculinity.



Follow-up +M workshops were delivered separately with both parents and teachers across each of our four partner schools. The parent sessions focused on bringing them into the conversation, giving them insight into what their young people are exploring, and encouraging continued support at home. The teacher workshops explored the key themes of the project through a professional lens, with a focus on how to support students in the classroom as they engage with this work.



WHAT HAPPENED IN T2?

Last term, we facilitated workshops for more than 2,000 participants across Years 7-9, 10-11, parents and teachers. We're thrilled to share that feedback from both parents and teachers was overwhelmingly positive—with one school's staff workshop even receiving a 100% Net Promoter Score (NPS). (That's huge!)

WORKSHOPS RUN:

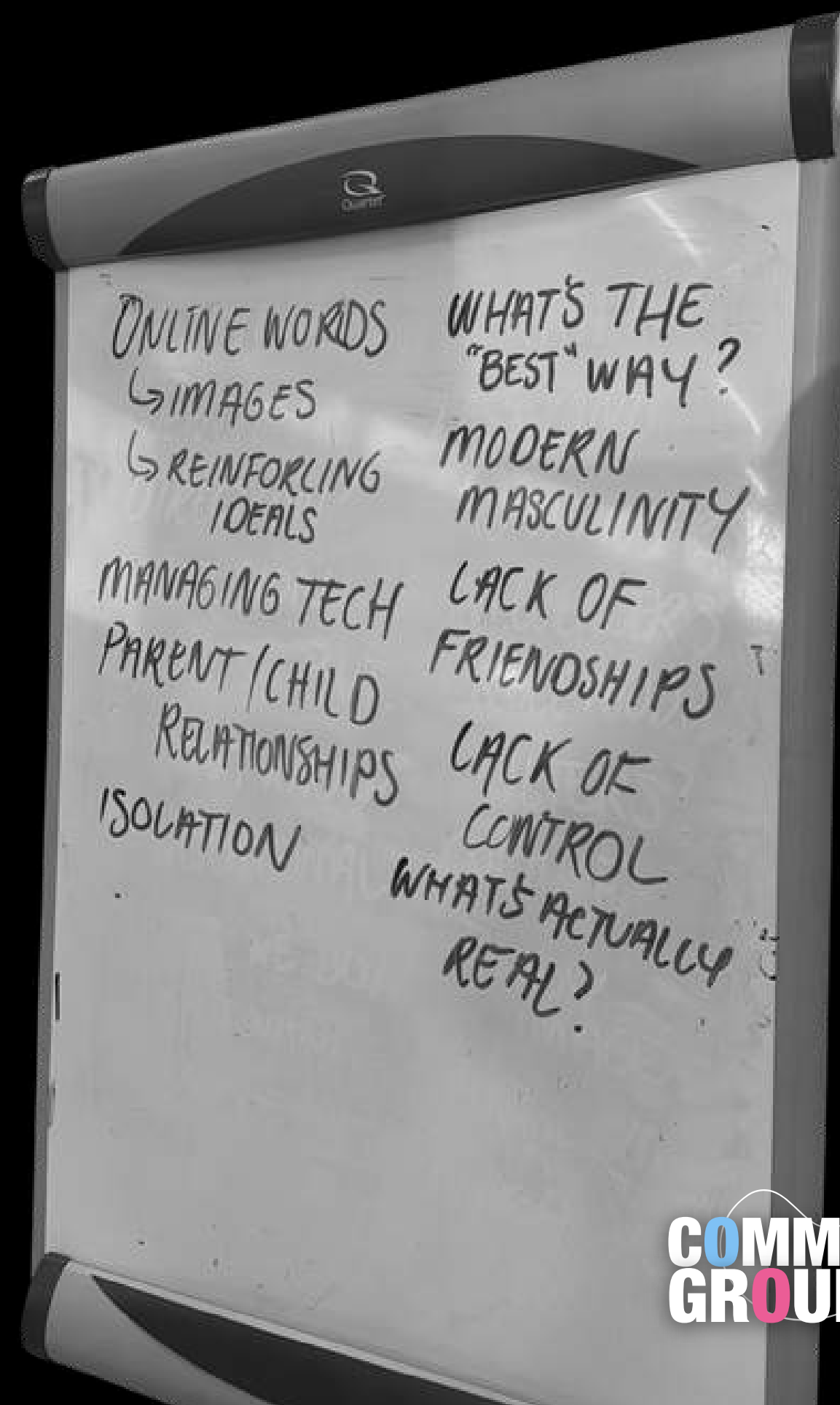
TMTW: 46 Year 10 + 11 workshops
+M: 4 parent workshops, 4 teacher workshops

+M CURRICULUM:

All 4 schools completed the +M 5 lesson sequence

LETTERS SENT HOME:

40+ letters sent home to standout contributors in TMTW workshops.



INTRODUCING THE +M CURRICULUM

Designed to be gender transformative, this curriculum is more than just theory. With five high-impact lessons per year level (Years 7–9), it invites students to reflect, discuss, and apply what they learn in the real world. At the heart of it? Our Positive Masculinity framework: inspiring students to be Connected. Motivated. Authentic.

<u>YEAR LEVEL</u>	<u>CORE VALUE</u>	<u>FOCUS TOPIC</u>	<u>WHAT IT'S ALL ABOUT</u>
Year 7	Connection	Objectification	Building socially connected students who create safe, inclusive spaces
Year 8	Authenticity	Gender Stereotypes	Encouraging students to challenge stereotypes, stay true to themselves, and engage respectfully with others
Year 9	Motivation	Emotional Regulation	Helping students see the ripple effects of their actions—and build the tools to respond, not react



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LETTERS TO STANDOUT PARTICIPANTS



To Whom It May Concern,

I hope this message finds you well. My name is Sarah, and I'm a facilitator with Tomorrow Woman. Recently, we had the privilege of running workshops for the Year 10 students at [REDACTED] and I wanted to take a moment to share how impressed I was with [REDACTED]'s participation.

Throughout the workshop [REDACTED] was incredibly insightful and showed a deep sense of awareness for her peers. [REDACTED] would contribute with confidence and articulate perspectives in ways that the students strongly related to.

In the workshop, the students were presented with an opportunity for someone to share more honestly with the group. At this moment, [REDACTED] offered to open up to the group and showed a side that a lot of her peers hadn't seen of her before. The room was captivated hearing her speak and [REDACTED]'s peers expressed how much admiration and respect they had for her. I was so impressed with [REDACTED]'s leadership and how gracious she was to share.

I'm looking forward to working with [REDACTED] again and recognise her as someone incredibly capable of creating a positive impact amongst her peers and wider community.

Warm regards,

Sarah - Tomorrow Woman



LETTERS TO STANDOUT PARTICIPANTS



To Whom It May Concern,

I hope this message finds you well. My name is Ryder, and I'm a facilitator with Tomorrow Man. We've been running a program [REDACTED], working with the boys once a term.

The term 2 workshop focused on banter and judgement that goes "below the line" (too personal, offensive or hurtful) and how to voice that. The participants also explore their "Armour" which is how they protect themselves from judgement and what is beneath (authenticity, emotions, insecurities, etc). At the end of the workshop, they get the opportunity to apologize to one another if they've ever gone below the line, as well as acknowledging those in the cohort who have played a role in improving the culture.

I wanted to send you this message about [REDACTED] being one of the standouts in his term 2 Tomorrow Man workshop. After a few shares in the big group from participants voicing why certain banter topics go below the line, [REDACTED] decided to step up to the front of the room and share. What he shared was incredibly courageous, authentic and wise beyond his years.

The group were very inspired by what [REDACTED] shared and told him how "gutsy" they thought he was. Some even apologised to him for past actions. [REDACTED] spoke with passion, integrity and confidence. He has a gentle and kind presence, amongst a more rowdy and "stereotypically masculine" group. This individuality is a real strength for [REDACTED] and will serve him well as he gets older. It was so nice hearing him speak with admiration for his friends who fully support him.

Thanks for taking the time to read this message. I'm sure you're very proud of [REDACTED] for moving forward to working with him again. Sending my regards,

Tomorrow Man



WANT TO DIG DEEPER?

GROUNDING OUR APPROACH IN RESEARCH

Feeling curious and motivated to learn more? We've been diving into the latest research and would love to share it with you. A few highlighted articles:

Hegemonic Masculinity & Academic Outcomes: Exploring how rigid masculine ideals (toughness, dominance) might affect how boys engage and perform in school.

Can AI Companions Reduce Loneliness? Six studies looking at whether AI can detect and reduce loneliness—and what that could mean for our social futures.

Traditional Masculinity & Male Violence Against Women: A meta-analysis of studies showing how some beliefs tied to traditional masculinity correlate with increased risk of violence.



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STUDENT FEEDBACK



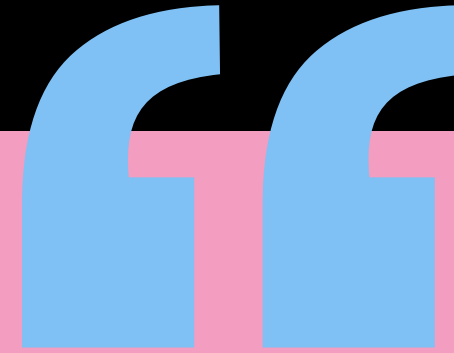
“I learnt that accountability and respect are crucial in any form of relationship.”

“I’ve started to notice the effect of banter and have learnt how to question and break down the male stereotype.”



“Even though we only see each other once every few months, I keep your messages and teachings in mind every day.

On behalf of me and my mates, we take your words on board and appreciate every second with you.”



“How bad banter can be and the effect it has on your mates. And how powerful compliments can be instead”

“I’ve learnt to check in on mates and family, and see how they’re going, mentally and physically.”

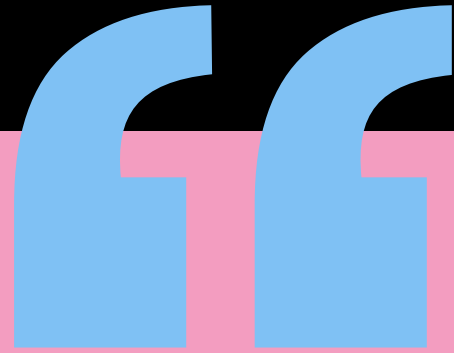


“I’ve learnt to be more respectful in group settings, and now I understand how it feels when someone crosses the line.”

“Everyone has something under the armour. Call out banter. Stand up for others.”



PARENT AND TEACHER FEEDBACK



“Topics were definitely relevant and the conversations that occurred were brilliant.”

“Practical, positive, and motivating—it’s the kind of support we all need.”



“Mind blowing work – looking forward to challenging the norm.”

“The lessons are accessible, well-paced and so needed.”

“Extremely informative and professionally presented. Worthwhile!”



“Incredibly valuable and impactful... gives us solid strategies to connect with our teens.”

“This gives teachers the tools to support mental health and tackle outdated gender norms head-on.”



“Reinforcing and encouraging better communication with my kids.”

“Relevant, exciting, empowering... this work should be in every school around the world.”



ANECDOTAL STORIES

“A student who had lost his uncle the day before the workshop opened up about it during the session. He said the stereotype of masculinity had stopped him from knowing how to talk to his mates about it until now.”

“A participant approached us as we were leaving on the final day to thank us and shared how excited he is for the next session in Term 3.”

“A Year 10 student stayed back after the workshop to share how he’d reconnected with his uncle since Module 1. They now speak regularly, and it’s completely shifted their relationship.”

“Students began calling out banter that targeted disability, learning difficulties, women and jokes about family members.”

“Multiple participants came to the front of the room and gave personal context for banter that goes too far. One student shared openly about how homophobia impacts him”



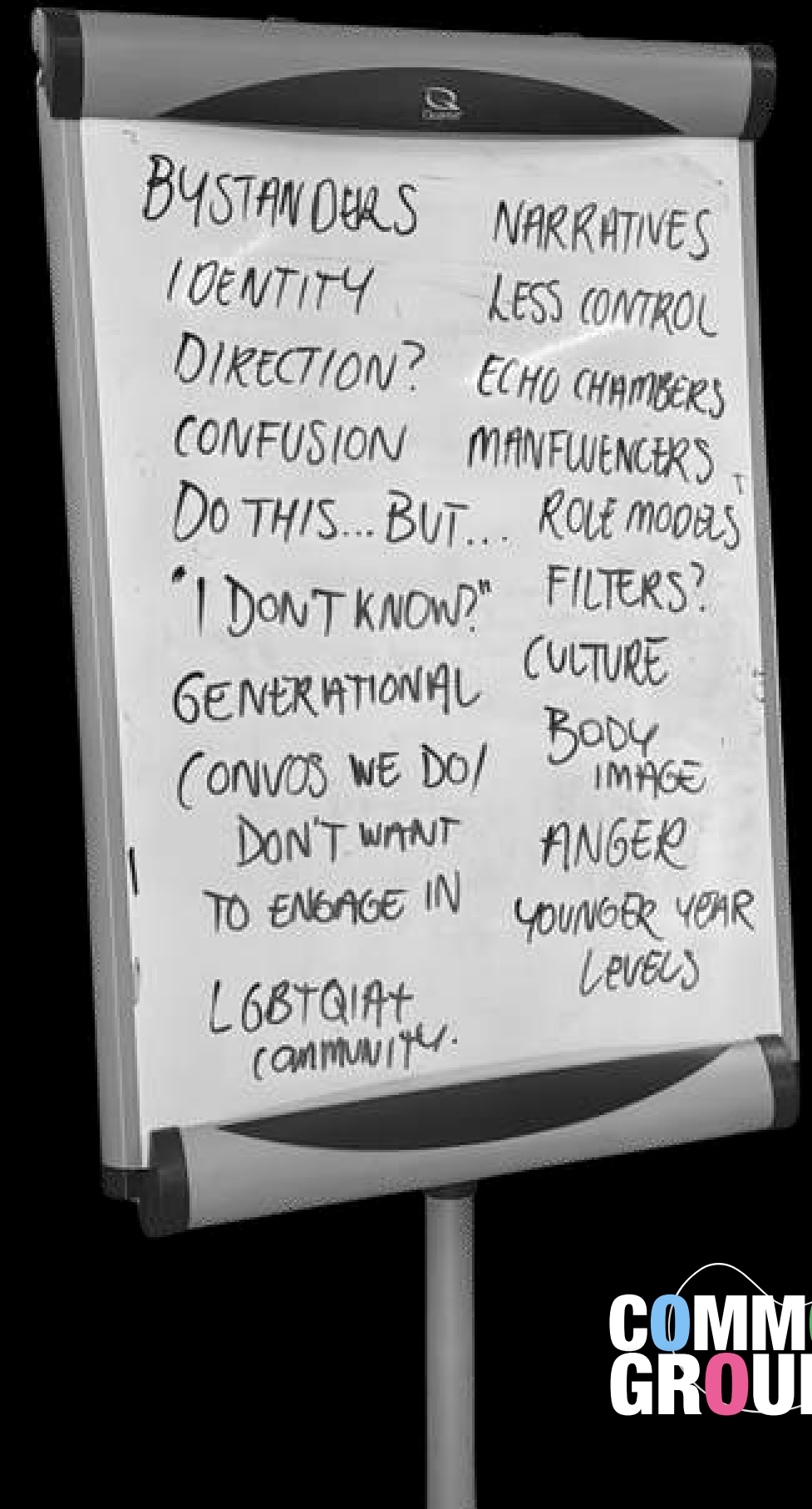
LISTENING AND LEARNING

As pleased as we are with the progress we've made so far, we also want to acknowledge something important: we're still learning too. This work is complex and challenging. It questions longstanding norms and forces all of us (students, parents, educators and also us as the program developers) to sit with some uncomfortable truths. But this is exactly where the growth begins.

We don't always get it perfect the first time, but our team acknowledges this and is committed to:

- Learning from our mistakes - owning them, reflecting on them and using them as fuel to do better.
- Actively listening to community feedback - what's landing well, what's not, and what we can do to be more relevant, inclusive and impactful.
- Creating space for tough conversations, and ensuring they're held with care, curiosity and respect.
- Continuing our own education - because shifting culture means walking the talk, not just teaching it.

As a team, we believe that real change comes from leaning in and asking better questions so we can evolve. We are on the journey too; alongside the schools and communities we work with.





**THANK
YOU**

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