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Realise it

Activity



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Realise it

Shaping my personalised pathway

Having created an inspiring vision for your future and connected with people who can help you along the way, the final critical stage in the process is to develop your own personalised pathway - your unique route map to making your vision a reality.

Like planning a journey or holiday, making your vision a reality has three simple steps.

You need to consider:

1. **Where am I now?**
2. **Where do I want to be?**
3. **How do I get there?**

Step 1. Where am I now?

Take an honest look at 'Starting My Journey' and answer the two questions.

Use the scores to plot yourself on the map.

Are you currently a follower, settler, dreamer or achiever?

Consider what staying in the same position as you are now for the rest of your life would be like. Would you be happy with the implications of this? Actions speak louder than words, so consider what you need to do differently to achieve your goals.

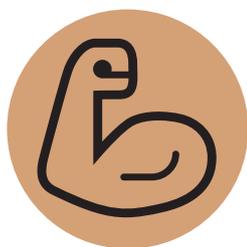
Step 2. Where do I want to be?

Take a fresh look at your **Golden Ticket** and choose the particular elements that really excite and inspire you. These may be about your ideal job, specific learning achievements or qualifications, fun experiences, positive people, or the difference you've made.

Now imagine you've achieved all these things, and you're living and breathing everything important to you in your Golden Ticket. You have reached your destination, the top right zone of the map. You have made your vision real. Think about what this would look like? How does it feel? What do you hear yourself and other people saying?

Step 3. How do I get there?

Wherever you are now, however close you are to making your vision real, the exciting thing is you can make use of a range of different steps to help you get to where you want to be. These come in the form of:



Working steps

Gaining meaningful work-related experiences



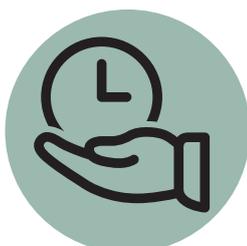
Learning steps

Developing relevant skills, attitudes, knowledge, and confidence



Playing steps

Getting involved in opportunities you enjoy with positive people



Giving steps

Making a difference to friends, family, and community

The choice and combination of these working, learning, playing, and giving steps is completely up to you, and can be personalised to your own needs and circumstances.

Now imagine yourself celebrating your trip of a lifetime. You've reached your final destination, your Golden Ticket. When you look back which six steps do you feel have been key along the way?



Take a look at the images that illustrate some of the working, learning, playing and giving steps you may wish to take and select those that are relevant. These may all be within one section or could be a combination of all four. There is no right or wrong, it is your choice, your pathway. You could even create your own images if the ones here are not relevant.

You can do this a couple of ways. You may find it useful working backwards from your final destination. For example, what was the final step you took before you achieved your goal. What was the step before that which then enabled you to achieve this? By keeping working backwards you can focus on the opportunities rather than the obstacles.

If you struggle to look backwards however, think of the first two or three steps you need to take from where you are now. You could even combine both approaches, placing a step alternately from each end of the pathway.

Remember to be creative, some steps may be being worked on simultaneously. For example, you may be volunteering and at the same time, learning from a mentor, or gaining from work experience whilst also growing your network.

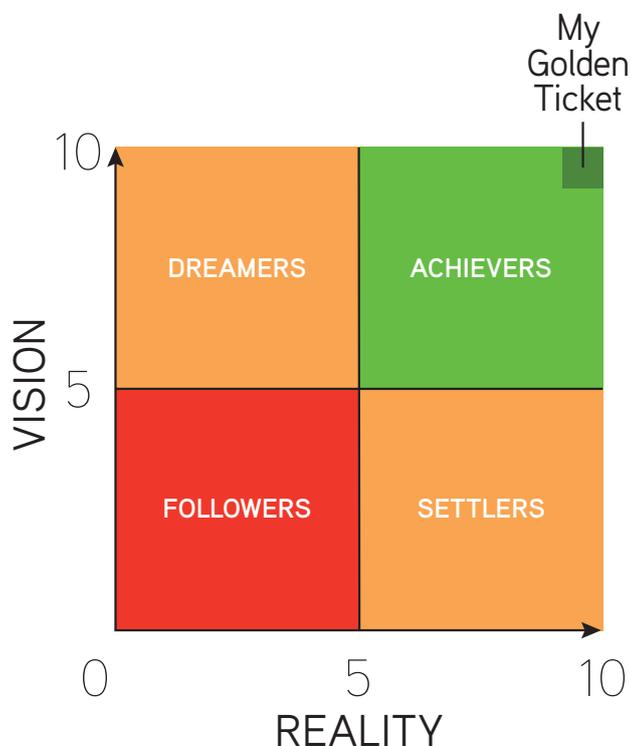
Whatever approach you use, it's always useful to bounce ideas off someone you've connected with in your circle of support. Take time to creatively discuss the range of alternatives you have, how you'll overcome potential obstacles and roadblocks, and the baby steps required to get the journey underway.

For the six images you have chosen, make a note of which these are in your 'Personalised Pathway'. You may also want to create a Plan B using a different combination or ordering of working, learning, playing and giving steps.

And finally, always remember to continually review your Golden Ticket perhaps with the help of those in your circle of support as your journey will inevitably have a number of twists, turns and unexpected companions along the way.

Starting my journey

To start your journey towards your Golden Ticket it is important to plot where you are now by honestly answering the following questions.



Vision

Score yourself out of 10 as to how clear, exciting and meaningful is your vision for the future.

If your vision is really clear, you are excited by it and it means a lot to you then give yourself a 10. If you still feel unfocused about what you want to do and don't therefore feel excited by it, then score yourself lower.

Reality

Score yourself out of 10 as to how proactive you have been in making your vision a reality.

Give yourself a 10 if you have really stretched yourself and created meaningful experiences, opportunities, and encounters, or a lower score if you have not done anything, stayed in your comfort zone and waited for things to happen.

Use the scores to plot yourself on the map.

Followers

If you find yourself here you may be guilty of not having your own vision for the future but following others and taking very few proactive steps yourself. There may be a number of reasons for this but don't worry – find someone in your circle of support who can spend time helping you to take a few small steps to create that vision of your own and begin to make it a reality.

Settlers

Finding yourself as a settler can sometimes mean that you have not been brave enough creating your vision for the future. You may have a lot of potential but for a number of reasons have decided to settle for something less than you are capable of. Re-visit your Golden Ticket, perhaps with the help of someone who is creative and believes in you and make it bigger and bolder.

Dreamers

You may have a clear picture of where you want to go but have taken no action. If you don't create the right experiences, opportunities and encounters then your vision will remain just a dream and never a reality. There may be reasons why you feel you cannot take action so seek help and start with some small steps.

Achievers

You may have an exciting vision that you have taken practical steps to make real – well done for doing this. Remember though that this is an on-going process so build in time, perhaps with others in your circle of support who can help, to review your experiences and aspirations and keep updating your Golden Ticket so it remains relevant and meaningful for you.



Work it



Identifying my ideal job



Researching the job market



Identifying what employers want



Creating and tailoring my CV



Preparing for interviews



Gaining meaningful experience



Exploring apprenticeships



Starting my own business



Learn it



Knowing myself



Believing in myself



Creating my vision



Getting a mentor



Developing my skills



Choosing subjects I love



Achieving relevant qualifications



Learning from role models



Play it



Boosting my health and wellbeing



Creating environments that help me thrive



Joining new clubs and groups



Growing my network



Exploring different places



Focusing on what I enjoy



Spending time with positive people



Celebrating life



Give it



Helping my family



Supporting my friends



Exploring opportunities to volunteer



Volunteering



Setting up a charity



Speaking up for what matters



Being grateful



Thanking others

Personalised pathway

Where I want to be

Diagram showing the top row of the pathway. The left box is empty. The right box contains an image of two gold tickets. One ticket is clearly visible with the text "TICKET", "ADMIT ONE", and the number "22041973". An arrow points from the right box to the left box. A curved arrow points from the right box down to the right box of the second row.

Diagram showing the second row of the pathway. Both the left and right boxes are empty. An arrow points from the right box to the left box. A curved arrow points from the right box down to the right box of the third row.

Diagram showing the third row of the pathway. Both the left and right boxes are empty. An arrow points from the right box to the left box. A curved arrow points from the right box down to the right box of the fourth row.

Diagram showing the bottom row of the pathway. The left box contains a 2x2 matrix with the following labels:

10	DREAMERS	ACHIEVERS
5	FOLLOWERS	SETTLERS
0	5	10

The right box is empty. An arrow points from the right box to the left box. A curved arrow points from the right box down to the right box of the third row.

Where I am now

Life is a journey
not a destination

Ralph Waldo Emerson