

21st century skills

Explanations of associated skills

21st century skills	Associated skills	Explanations
critical thinking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • analytical thinking • problem-solving • decision-making • reasoning • reflecting and evaluating • intellectual flexibility 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • analysing data and information to break complex aspects into component parts and recombine them in different ways to create new knowledge • occurs when an obstacle is encountered on the way to achieving a goal; the sub-skills for this process include identifying and analysing the problem • a process involving weighing options to determine the most appropriate course of action • the process of drawing conclusions or inferences from facts or premises • to think about deeply and carefully and make an appraisal by weighing up or assessing strengths, implications and limitations • make judgments about ideas, works, solutions or methods in relation to selected criteria; examine and determine the merit, value or significance of something, based on criteria • having understanding or mental capacity, especially of a higher order • to adjust thinking in response to changing goals and/or environmental stimuli
creative thinking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • innovation • initiative and enterprise • curiosity and imagination • creativity • generating and applying new ideas • identifying alternatives • seeing or making new links 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • introducing new ideas; original and creative in thinking • taking an introductory act or step leading to action to undertake a project, especially one that is important or that requires boldness or energy • the desire to learn or know; inquisitiveness and the action of forming new ideas, images or concepts of external objects not present to the senses • to bring something into being or existence; produce or evolve from one's own thought or imagination; reorganise or put elements together into a new pattern or structure or to form a coherent or functional whole • to produce; create; bring into existence; use knowledge and understanding in response to a given situation or circumstance; carry out or use a procedure in a given or particular situation • looking at problems from multiple perspectives to enable the imagining of multiple solutions • to spontaneously look beyond the specifics of a question or problem to see the issues in a more holistic sense

communication	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • effective oral and written communication • using language, symbols and texts • communicating ideas effectively with diverse audiences 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • cultivating and manipulating appropriate language, terminology, symbols and diagrams associated with effective and efficient communication in context • transforming language and texts to convey ideas and information in concise and engaging ways • to impart knowledge of; to make known to suit different audiences and purposes
collaboration and teamwork	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • relating to others • recognising and using diverse perspectives • participating and contributing • community connections 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • working and interacting with others to maximise their understanding of concepts • recognising diverse perspectives to help achieve shared goals • ability to work effectively and respectfully with diverse teams, and exercise flexibility and willingness to be helpful in making necessary compromises to accomplish a common goal; assume shared responsibility for collaborative work and value the individual contributions made by each team member • build awareness and understanding of life beyond school through authentic, real-world interactions; encourage responsible and informed citizens
personal and social skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • adaptability/flexibility • management (self, career, time, planning and organising) • character (resilience, mindfulness, open- and fair-mindedness, self-awareness) • leadership • citizenship • cultural awareness 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • demonstrating adaptability and flexibility to create strategies • effectively regulating, managing and monitoring emotional responses, and persisting to complete tasks and overcome obstacles; develop organisational skills and identify the resources needed to achieve goals • the skills to work independently and to show initiative, learn to be conscientious, delay gratification and persevere in the face of setbacks and frustrations • developing self-awareness to enhance personal assets, including resilience, mindfulness, open- and fair-mindedness • to know yourself or have a clear understanding of your personality, including strengths and weaknesses • the ability to use interpersonal skills to establish trust and create a sense of teamwork; to take action, set concrete goals and follow the steps necessary to achieve them • acknowledging your status as a citizen by birth or naturalisation and responding in an engaged and informed manner to the civic, political or social issues at a local, state, national or global level • valuing and learning about your own cultures, languages and beliefs, and those of others • developing responsibility as a local and global citizen, equipped for living and working in an interconnected world • developing cultural awareness, citizenship, moral and ethical understandings in learning contexts

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ethical (and moral) understanding 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • building a strong personal and socially oriented, ethical outlook that assists with managing context, conflict and uncertainty, and to develop an awareness of the influence that your values and behaviour have on others • assists engagement with more complex issues that are likely to be encountered in the future, and to navigate a world of competing values, rights, interests and norms
information & communication technologies (ICT) skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • operations and concepts • accessing and analysing information • being productive users of technology • digital citizenship (being safe, positive and responsible online) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • using digital technologies to produce and present data and information, research and interrogate information and manipulate data • accessing, capturing and analysing information, including primary and secondary data • using digital technologies to analyse trends, patterns or relationships in data and information • being a safe, positive and responsible user of local and networked computer-based resources