





21st century skills

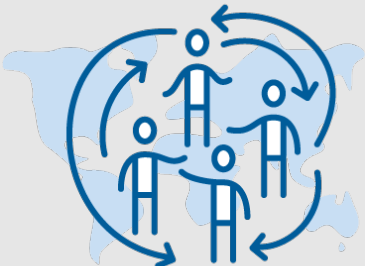
Explanations of 21st century skills and associated skills


21st century skill	Associated skill	Explanation
Critical thinking  <p>Critical thinking involves the ability to reason and make logical connections between ideas through assessing our own thinking and the thinking of others. It includes analysing information, explaining knowledge, evaluating arguments, justifying reasoning and reflecting on the reasoning process to make sound decisions.</p> <p>Critical thinkers break down complex problems into manageable parts, consider different perspectives, and apply intellectual flexibility to adapt their thinking. Critical thinking skills enable students to approach issues systematically and develop well-supported conclusions.</p>	analytical thinking	<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 understanding explaining the knowledge required for understanding
	problem-solving	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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
	decision-making	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a process involving weighing options to determine the most appropriate course of action
	reasoning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> the process of drawing conclusions or inferences from facts or premises
	reflecting and evaluating	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> thinking deeply and carefully and making an appraisal by weighing up or assessing strengths, implications and limitations making judgments about ideas, works, solutions or methods in relation to selected criteria; examining and determining the merit, value or significance of something, based on criteria
	intellectual flexibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> having understanding associated with higher order thinking skills to adjust thinking in response to changing goals and/or environmental stimuli

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Creative thinking  <p>Creative thinking is the process of generating innovative ideas and solutions. It involves curiosity, imagination, and the ability to see connections between seemingly unrelated concepts.</p> <p>Creative thinkers explore various possibilities and challenge conventional approaches, leading to original and valuable outcomes. By using creative processes, students can address challenges in novel ways and adapt their ideas to different contexts, fostering innovation and adaptability.</p>	innovation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> introducing new ideas; original and creative in thinking
	initiative and enterprise	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> taking an introductory act or step leading to action to undertake a project, especially one that is important or that requires boldness or energy
	curiosity and imagination	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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
	creativity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> bringing something into being or existence; producing or evolving from one's own thought or imagination; reorganising or putting elements together into a new pattern or structure or to form a coherent or functional whole
	generating and applying new ideas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> producing, creating, bringing into existence; using knowledge and understanding in response to a given situation or circumstance; carrying out or using a procedure in a given or particular situation
	identifying alternatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> looking at problems from multiple perspectives to enable the imagining of multiple solutions
	seeing or making new links	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> spontaneously looking beyond the specifics of a question or problem to see the issues in a more holistic sense

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Communication  <p>Effective communication encompasses the clear and engaging exchange of ideas through various mediums. It requires understanding the audience, selecting appropriate language and symbols, and using tools and technologies to convey messages.</p> <p>Skilled communicators listen actively, provide constructive feedback, and collaborate to build shared understanding. This skill is essential for students to articulate complex information, persuade others, and function efficiently with diverse audiences.</p>	effective oral and written communication	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • cultivating and manipulating appropriate language, terminology, symbols and diagrams associated with effective and efficient transmission of information in context
	using language, symbols and texts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • transforming language and texts to convey ideas and information in concise and engaging ways
	communicating ideas effectively with diverse audiences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • imparting knowledge of; making known to suit different audiences and purposes

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Collaboration and teamwork  <p>Collaboration and teamwork focus on working cooperatively with others to achieve common goals. They involve respecting diverse perspectives, sharing responsibilities, and contributing positively to group efforts and the wider community. Teamwork requires effective communication, conflict resolution, and leadership skills. By developing these skills, students can effectively communicate and resolve conflict.</p> <p>Collaborators listen to others, negotiate solutions, and support team members, enhancing learning experiences and fostering a sense of community. By developing effective skills such as active listening, negotiating solutions and supporting team members, they enhance their learning experiences and foster a sense of community.</p>	relating to others	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> working and interacting with others to maximise their understanding of concepts
	recognising and using diverse perspectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> recognising diverse perspectives to help achieve shared goals
	participating and contributing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> the ability to work effectively and respectfully with diverse teams, exercising flexibility and willingness to be helpful in making necessary compromises to accomplish a common goal; assuming shared responsibility for collaborative work, valuing the individual contributions made by each team member
	community connections	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> building awareness and understanding of life beyond school through authentic, real-world interactions; encouraging responsible and informed citizens

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Personal and social skills  <p>Personal and social skills include self-awareness, self-management, social awareness, and relationship management. These skills help individuals understand their emotions, set and achieve goals, and persevere through challenges. Social skills involve empathy, effective communication, and building positive relationships.</p> <p>By developing these skills, students can navigate social interactions and work collaboratively, contributing to personal wellbeing and success in various aspects of life.</p>	adaptability/flexibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> demonstrating adaptability and flexibility to create strategies
	management (self, career, time, planning and organising)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> effectively regulating, managing and monitoring emotional responses, and persisting to complete tasks and overcome obstacles; developing organisational skills and identifying the resources needed to achieve goals the skills to work independently, showing initiative, learning to be conscientious, delaying gratification and persevering in the face of setbacks and frustrations
	character (resilience, mindfulness, open- and fair-mindedness, self-awareness)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> developing self-awareness to enhance personal assets, including resilience, mindfulness, open- and fair-mindedness knowing yourself or having a clear understanding of your personality, including strengths and weaknesses
	leadership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> the ability to use interpersonal skills to establish trust and create a sense of teamwork; taking action, setting concrete goals and following the steps necessary to achieve them
	citizenship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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
	cultural awareness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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, and moral and ethical understanding in learning contexts
	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, developing an awareness of the influence that your values and behaviour have on others assisting engagement with more complex issues that are likely to be encountered in the future, and navigating a world of competing values, rights, interests and norms

21st century skill	Associated skill	Explanation
Digital literacy  <p>Digital literacy is the competence to use digital technologies effectively and responsibly. It includes understanding how to access and analyse information, operate digital devices and tools, and be productive users of technology. Digital literacy also involves being a responsible digital citizen, understanding online safety, and respecting intellectual property.</p> <p>As proficient digital users, students can create, communicate, and collaborate using digital tools, analyse information using critical thinking skills, adapt to technological advancements and engage with the digital world.</p>	operations and concepts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • using digital technologies to produce and present data and information, research and interrogate information, and manipulate data
	accessing and critically analysing information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • accessing, capturing and critically analysing information, including primary and secondary data
	being productive users of technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • using digital technologies to analyse trends, patterns or relationships in data and information
	digital citizenship (being safe, positive and responsible online)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • being a safe, positive and responsible user of local and networked computer-based resources

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