

Core Competencies

The Core Competencies in the new curriculum were developed to support student engagement in deep, life-long learning. There are three core competency areas: *Thinking, Communication, Personal & Social.*

Thinking

- **Creative Thinking** – involves the generation of new, meaningful ideas & concepts

These are the skills which help students develop new ideas that are meaningful to them, and allow them to have fun, express themselves, solve a problem, or experience a sense of accomplishment.

- **Critical Thinking** – involves making judgements based on reasoning; students consider & analyze options and form conclusions; based on observation, experience, and various forms of communication

These are the skills which help students analyze information, ask questions, and learn through investigation, exploration, and experimentation.

Personal & Social

- **Positive Personal & Cultural Identity** – the awareness, understanding, and appreciation of all the facets that contribute to a healthy sense of oneself; including awareness and understanding of one's family background, heritage(s), language(s), beliefs, and perspectives in a pluralistic society

These are the skills which help students develop an awareness of their family background, heritage, language, and beliefs, understand what their strengths and abilities are, and share their interests with friends and family.

- **Personal Awareness & Responsibility** – the skills, strategies, and dispositions that help students to stay healthy and active, set goals, monitor progress, regulate emotions, respect their own rights and the rights of others, manage stress, and persevere in difficult situations; demonstrate self-respect and express a sense of personal well-being

These are the skills which help students to stay healthy and active, and take increasing responsibility in caring for themselves, learning to regulate their emotions, and learning to respect their own rights and the rights of others.

- **Social Responsibility** – the ability and disposition to consider the interdependence of people with each other and with the natural environment; to contribute positively to one’s family, community, society, and the environment, to resolve problems peacefully, to empathize with others and appreciate their perspectives, and to create and maintain healthy relationships

These skills allow students to contribute to their classroom, school, and community (e.g., to care for peers, for the school, for the environment), learn to solve problems, and build relationships with peers.

Communication

- **Communication** – the set of abilities that students use to share and exchange information, experiences, and ideas, to explore the world around them, and to engage in the use of digital media.

These skills allow students to connect & engage with others, acquire, interpret, and present information, collaborate with others, and share their experiences and accomplishments. Communication provides a bridge between students’ learning, their personal & social identity and relationships, and the world in which they interact.

(<https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/competencies>)