

Building 21st century skills

➤ With the onset of the 21st century, the entire world has witnessed an era of intense transformation in all areas, whether it is

- education,
- global trade and economy,
- technology or society.

Recently, the covid-19 pandemic is also throwing up challenges for an individual to cope with its impacts.

Naturally, for such times, a different skill-set is required that would enable an individual to cope-up and succeed in facing the challenges in real-life, leading to his holistic progress.

These skills are addressed as

21st Century Skills / Learning Skills / Transversal Competencies

Since “an individual” has been the centre of all activities, as such:

Skills that are required by an individual for :-

- his / her holistic development so that he / she can contribute to the progress and development of his society/ nation and world.
- these skills are several innovative policies and practices
- to empower, develop clear understanding in our students with the 21st century skills, and also
- collectively collaborate towards attaining the 21st century skills

Meaning of 21st Century Skills :

“The term 21st century **skills** refers to :

- a broad set of knowledge,
 - skills,
 - work habits, and
 - character traits
- that are believed- by educators, school reformers, college, professors, employers, and others—to be critically important to success in today’s world.”

In simple terms, 21st Century Skills refer to the skills that are required to **enable an individual to face the challenges of the 21st century world** that is :

- globally-active,
- digitally transforming,
- collaboratively moving forward,
- creatively progressing,
- seeking competent human-resource, and
- quick in adopting changes.

- On the basis of the historical development of 21st Century Skills, it can be stated that 21st century skills broadly consist of three main skill sets or :
- **3Ls** - namely :
- **Learning Skills:** skills required for the acquisition of new knowledge.
- **Literacy Skills:** skills that help in creating and gaining new knowledge through reading, media and digital resources
- **Life Skills** : skills required for successfully leading everyday life.

Learning Skills :

4 Cs :

- Critical Thinking,
- Creativity & Innovation,
- Collaboration,
- Communication

Literacy Skills

IMT:

- Information Literacy,
- Media Literacy,
- Technology Literacy

Life Skills :

➤ **ELIPS:**

- Flexibility and Adaptability,
- Leadership and Responsibility,
- Initiative and Self-Direction,
- Productivity & Accountability
- Social and Cross-Cultural Interaction



Learning Skills



Critical Thinking :

is the capability of objective analysis of information and includes the following qualities:

- fairness and open-mindedness;
- activeness and being informed;
- willingness to question or to entertain doubts;
- being independent.
- recognizing and assessing – values- peer pressure - media influences

Problem Solving : is the skill of :

- identifying the relevant piece of information when faced with a mass of data (most of which is irrelevant),
- discarding information that may not be useful to give new information, and finally,
- relating one set of information to another in a different form by using experience, relating new problems to ones we have previously solved



BROAD OUTCOMES

1 Effective reasoning

X Being able to **use reasoning** appropriate to the situation

2 Using Systems and Process with Intelligent and Rational Thinking

X **Analyze** how various parts of a system/ process unite/complement each other for a complete picture

3 Judging and Taking Decision on an issue after proper evaluation of evidences, claims, arguments etc.

X Analyze and evaluate various **perspectives**

X Making **correlation** between various types of information available

X **Interpret** the available information and form conclusions after effective analysis

X **Reflect the pros and cons** of experiences to solve problems

X Devise **innovative solutions** of different kinds of non-familiar problems

X Identify and **ask relevant and vital questions** to bring forth various perspectives and for getting better solutions

Creativity And Innovation:

skills to explore and create fresh ways of thinking. Creativity refers to new way of seeing or doing things and includes four components:

- fluency (generating new ideas),
- flexibility (shifting perspective easily),
- originality (conceiving of something new), and
- elaboration (building on others' ideas).

Innovative Skills mean skills for thinking creatively to develop something new / unique / improved / distinctive



BROAD OUTCOMES

1- Think Creatively :

- X Use various techniques for **creating and evolving new ideas** (such as brainstorming)
- X Use all available concepts to **create or conceive & perceive** novel and useful ideas
- X **Elaborate, refine, analyze and evaluate ideas** to improve one's own creative efforts

2- Creatively with Others

- X **Develop, implement and communicate** new ideas to others
- X Be **open and responsive** to diversity
- X incorporate group input and feedback into the work
- X **understand the practical limits** for adopting new ideas
- X Treat failure as an opportunity to learn and improve

3- Implement Innovations

- X **Implement** creative ideas for a useful contribution

➤ **Collaboration:**

is the ability to effectively work together with others. This skill involves :

- working together while taking actions
- respecting others' needs and perspectives and
- contributing to and accepting the finale.
- helps to develop interest and fun in the teaching learning process.
- effectively broadens the cultural, social, and environmental boundaries and
- helps a child to understand social and environmental concerns better.



BROAD OUTCOMES

Collaborate with Others

- X Ability to **work effectively and respectfully** in diverse scenarios
- X Be **adaptable** to accomplish a common goal
- X Assume **shared responsibility** for collaborative work, and value the contributions made by each team member

Communication:

refers to the ability to express one's

- opinions,
- desires,
- needs,
- apprehensions etc.
- to oneself appropriately,
- verbally and non-verbally.



BROAD OUTCOMES

Communicate Clearly

- X **Effective** oral, written and nonverbal communication in a variety of forms and diverse social, cultural, linguistic contexts
- X Listening effectively to infer meaning
- X Use communication for a variety of purposes and functions
- X Use several forms of media and technologies and know their effectiveness

IMT:

- **Information Literacy**
- **Media Literacy,**
- **Technology Literacy:** These skills involve
 - the ability to access information (traditional or digital), media and technology,
 - to understand and
 - critically evaluate
 - different aspects of content and information and
 - create and communicate effectively.



BROAD OUTCOMES

Information Literacy

- X Efficiently and critically **access and evaluation of Information**
- X Use information accurately and creatively **for resolving issue or problem**
- X Manage the flow of information from a wide variety of sources
- X Apply a fundamental **understanding of the ethical/legal issues surrounding the access and use of information**

Media Literacy

- X **Understand** the preparation and purpose of media messages
- X **Examine** various manners/ways of interpreting messages
- X **Understand the ethical/legal issues** regarding the access and use of media
- X Understand and **utilize** the most appropriate media creation tools, characteristics and conventions
- X Understand and effectively utilize the most appropriate expressions and interpretations in diverse, multi-cultural environments



Technology Literacy

X Use technology as a tool to research, organize, evaluate and communication information

X Use digital technologies, communication networks, and tools to access, manage, integrate, evaluate and create information for functioning in the real life

FLIPS :

Flexibility And Adaptability:

- ❑ refer to a person's ability to change his actions and steps taken by him according to a new situation, and efficiently facing an unprecedented situation, without compromising on ethics and values.
- ❑ **Adaptability** can be defined as creating modifications or changes in oneself to suit the new environment.

For students, these can be understood as the skills required to be flexible and adaptive to the situations around them and find the best possible solution to go forward despite adverse conditions.



BROAD OUTCOMES

1- **Ready to Change**

- X **Adapt** to varied and multiple roles, jobs responsibilities, schedules and contexts
- X **Work effectively** in scenarios of changing priorities

2- **Be Flexible**

- X **Incorporate** feedback effectively
- X **Deal positively** with praise, setbacks and criticism
- X **Understand, negotiate and balance** diverse views and beliefs to get solutions, particularly in multi-cultural environments

Leadership And Responsibility:

□ **Leadership** is the ability to lead a team and be capable of effective team management in relation to real world challenges. These skills teach a child how to support the development of key personal qualities such as perseverance, being committed and responsible, resilience and self-confidence and how to foster a commitment to life-long learning.

□ Being **Responsible** means being a good and effective / sensitive citizen. Be aware of the important social and national issues that may have an impact on our daily lives both as a human-being and as a student, be aware of the important social and national issues that may have an impact on lives in future both as a human-being and as a student, be aware of our fundamental duties and rights and embed the core democratic values of India and strive to live by them.



BROAD OUTCOMES

1- Lead while Guiding

- X **Use** interpersonal and problem-solving skills **to influence and guide others toward a goal**
- X **Involve strengths** of others to accomplish a common goal
- X **Inspire others** to attain their best by example
- X **Demonstrate integrity and ethical behaviour** in using influence and power

2- Be Responsible to Everyone

- X **Act responsibly** keeping in mind the welfare of society and nation

Initiative And Self- Direction:

Initiation skill involves the ability to begin a task independently. It helps the child to build his / her own path of development.

Self-direction is a skill to work with integrity on self- motivation and taking initiatives.

1- Managing Goals and Time

- X **Set goals** with tangible and intangible success criteria
- X **Utilize time and manage workload** efficiently

2 - Work Independently

- X **Monitor, define, prioritize and complete** your tasks

3- Be Self-Directed Learners

- X Explore new information to **achieve mastery** in a task
- X **Take initiative** to get skills up to the professional level
- X Be a life-long learner
- X **Critically and positively analyse** past to make the future better

Productivity And Accountability:

Productivity in the student can be understood as fulfilment of any task within a given time period.

Accountability can be understood as feeling responsible for any task done.

Developing these skills in a student helps him/her to work effectively and also make him / her reliable for other peers by being accountable for his / her actions.



BROAD OUTCOMES

1- Manage Projects

- ▮ X **Set and meet goals**, even in the face of obstacles and competing pressures
- ▮ X **Prioritize, plan and manage** work to achieve the intended result

2- Give Results

- ▮ X **Practice values, ethics and skills** of professionalism, time management, punctuality, discipline, patience, collaboration and receptiveness to give proper results

Social And Cross- Cultural Interaction:

These are the skills:

- to communicate,
- work collaboratively and effectively
- in diverse social and cultural environments.



BROAD OUTCOMES

1- Effective Interaction

- X Listen more
- X know when to speak
- X Behave respectfully

2- Working in a team with diversity

- X **Respect differences** and work effectively with people from diverse backgrounds
- X **Be open** to various perspectives
- X **Blend and use** ideas from diverse teams to innovate and implement


Frequently used Facilitation methods to develop 'SKILLS'

- ▮ CLASS DISCUSSION (in small or large groups)
- ▮ BRAIN - STORMING
- ▮ ROLE PLAY
- ▮ GAMES AND SIMULATIONS
- ▮ SITUATION ANALYSIS AND CASE STUDIES
- ▮ DEBATE
- ▮ STORY TELLING
- ▮ PAINTING
- ▮ DANCE
- ▮ QUIZ
- ▮ QUESTIONNAIRES

So Now we know-- Why do we need 21st Century Skills?

Learning is complete and holistic only when a student is able to effectively perform and fulfil his/her responsibilities and duties towards self, school, family, society and above all, the nation.

The goal is to enable today's student to be a good citizen and a responsible human-being who is well-aware of his potential and competence.



Simply teaching to test or learning for exams is not going to help a student face everyday life situations.

21st Century Skills are key to the empowerment of Children and adolescents to deal with the issues and concerns related to their life. They experience a number of feelings, many of which are related to their growth and development from childhood to adolescence and beyond.

These are important for Children with Special Needs for developing their independence in their home, school, and community environments.

Role of a teacher In 21st century classroom :

- ▮ Act as facilitator
- ▮ Establish a safe, supportive & positive learning environment
- ▮ Foster cooperation among students
- ▮ Encourage inquisitiveness & intrinsic motivation
- ▮ Make students feel valued
- ▮ Foster good communication
- ▮ Listen thoughtfully
- ▮ Foster self expression develop cultural sensitivity
- ▮ Plan & implement active learning strategies



Thanks

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Sincere Grateful acknowledgement

To

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&

Cbse handbook on “ 21st Century skills”

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