

Thinking creatively and critically

Having the capacity to use ideas and strategies from a wide range of subjects and contexts helps students think of new ways to solve problems, and critically evaluate ideas and processes.

With these skills students become creative problem solvers with the capacity to generate new ideas – vital skills in a knowledge economy and a rapidly changing world. Fostering creativity helps students develop the capacity to adapt knowledge for use in different contexts, and increases their resilience, resourcefulness and confidence.

Examples of student outcomes

Students will:

- Challenge assumptions.
- Articulate potential problems to solve in relation to ambiguous or complex phenomena.
- Integrate different sets of discipline knowledge or skills to solve problems.
- Take paths or approaches different from their peers or teachers.
- Defend solutions and break conventions.
- Build connections across disciplines and between objects and ideas.
- Work with objects and ideas without an end goal in mind.
- Generate a range of novel ideas in relation to personal knowledge and learning context.
- Apply metaphorical thinking.
- Seek new resources to answer emerging questions.
- Explore initial ideas more deeply.
- Assess the strengths and weaknesses of creative ideas, work or products.
- Explore ambiguous and complex phenomena.



The New Basics

The categories and competencies in the New Basics evolved from existing research, feedback from teachers, principals and parents, and People for Education's Measuring What Matters initiative.

- Learning to learn
- **Thinking creatively and critically**
- Collaborating
- Communicating effectively
- Developing a sense of self and society

