

A framework of personal, learning and thinking skills

The framework comprises six groups of skills that, together with the functional skills of English, mathematics and ICT, are essential to success in learning, life and work. In essence, the framework captures the essential skills of: managing self; managing relationships with others; and managing own learning, performance and work. It is these skills that will enable young people to enter work and adult life as confident and capable individuals.

The titles of the six groups of skills are set out below.

Independent
enquirers

Creative
thinkers

Reflective
learners

Team
workers

Self-
managers

Effective
participators

For each group of skills, a focus statement sums up the range of skills. This is accompanied by a set of outcome statements that are indicative of the skills, behaviours and personal qualities associated with each group.

Each group is distinctive and coherent. The groups are also interconnected. Young people are likely to encounter skills from several groups in any one learning experience. For example, *independent enquirers* set goals for their research with clear success criteria (*reflective learners*) and organise and manage their time and resources effectively to achieve these goals (*self-managers*).

In order to acquire and develop fundamental concepts such as organising oneself, managing change, taking responsibility and perseverance, learners will need to apply skills from all six groups in a wide range of learning contexts from ages 11 to 19.