

The Policy will be reviewed annually, or more regularly in the light of any significant new developments. The next anticipated review date will be:	<b>February 2026</b>
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## Policy for Learning Skills

### Educational Rationale

In the rapidly evolving landscape of the 21st century, equipping students with the key skills for learning for the future is a crucial part of our curriculum. At GFM we believe there are four key learning skills that all students should master: Critical Thinking, Communication, Collaboration, and Creativity. These competencies enable learners to navigate complex challenges, innovate, and contribute meaningfully to society. Integrating the Four Cs into our curriculum fosters holistic development, preparing students for future academic pursuits and the dynamic demands of the global workforce.

### Enhancing the 'Four Cs' Across Educational Stages

**Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS):** At this foundational level, emphasis is placed on play-based learning to nurture creativity and collaboration. Activities such as group storytelling and imaginative play encourage communication skills, while simple problem-solving tasks lay the groundwork for critical thinking.

**Key Stage One:** Building upon early foundations, students engage in structured group projects to enhance collaboration. Class discussions and show-and-tell sessions promote effective communication. Introducing puzzles and basic reasoning exercises further develops critical thinking abilities.

**Key Stage Two:** At this stage, students undertake more complex collaborative projects, fostering teamwork and creative problem-solving. Debates and presentations are incorporated to refine communication skills. Engaging in experiments and inquiry-based learning strengthens critical thinking and creativity.

**Key Stage Three:** Students participate in interdisciplinary projects that require advanced collaboration and creative solutions. Opportunities for public speaking and collaborative digital projects enhance communication skills. Critical analysis of texts and real-world scenarios further sharpens critical thinking.

**Young Adult Stage:** Preparing for higher education and the workforce, students engage in internships and community projects that demand high-level collaboration and communication. Creative endeavors such as entrepreneurship programs are encouraged. Advanced critical thinking is developed through research projects and ethical debates.

### Vision

*'At GFM we empower students to have the heart to celebrate uniqueness and the mind to be innovative, creative problem solvers, bringing a positive change to the world in which we live.'*

## Assessment of the Four Cs

Our school employs a multifaceted assessment approach to evaluate proficiency in the Four Cs. This includes observational assessments during group activities, evaluation of individual and group projects, presentations, and reflective journals. Rubrics tailored to each competency provide clear criteria, ensuring objective and comprehensive evaluation of student progress.

## Equity and Inclusion

We are committed to an inclusive educational environment where every student has equitable access to learning opportunities that develop the Four Cs. Recognizing diverse learning needs, we adapt activities and provide appropriate support to ensure all students can participate fully. Similarly, for the more able there are opportunities to enhance skills through enrichment and advanced studies. This commitment aligns with our dedication to fostering a sense of equity, belonging and respect within our school community.

## Role of the Teaching Team

Our educators are pivotal in integrating the Four Cs into the curriculum. Through continuous professional development, teachers are equipped with strategies to facilitate and model these competencies. They create a supportive learning environment, guide collaborative efforts, encourage open communication, stimulate creative thinking, and challenge students to engage in critical analysis. The teaching team's dedication ensures that the principles of the Four Cs are effectively imparted across all educational stages.

## **Vision**

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