

# Approaches to Learning



## What?

Approaches to learning are the skills that students need to learn and master for ongoing education and employment.

Skills can be subject-specific (eg solving equations) or more general learning skills (eg time management).

## Where?

Skills can be explicitly taught in class or structured activities.

Students can practise skills in formal and informal situations eg as part of a sports club or planning their time on the weekend.

All teachers in IB schools are responsible for integrating and explicitly teaching skills.

Parents can help their children develop skills by encouraging them to try new activities, solve problems, take on challenges and reflect on their progress.

## Why?

Skills help students prepare and complete assessments. They give students the necessary tools to succeed in school, further education and employment. Skills such as resilience, communication and critical thinking help students become active members of their communities.

## How?

Teachers can create vertical and horizontal plans of skills being taught using skill categories and sub-categories.

Students need regular opportunities and an easy format to record when they have learned/practised/mastered a skill. Including evidence of skill development is a core part of tracking learning progress.

Coordinators can use data from planned skills and skills logged by students to identify any gaps in teaching skills.

## When?

Skills are an integral part of the curriculum. Teachers select several skills as a focus for each unit of learning.

Students regularly record and reflect on their skill development, both in class and learning individually.

