

Core Skills for the Future: Curriculum possibilities?

Core Skills and Curriculum for Excellence outcomes are based on the common understanding and commitment within education to an increased focus on learning. The knowledge, skills and understanding of Core Skills should be delivered explicitly in meaningful learning contexts and indeed reinforced through numerous activities across the curriculum.

Below are some examples of where such development might take place, through a range of learning activities. We would welcome further discussions here!

Core Skill	Curriculum for Excellence	Learning activities	Other X cutting benefits?
Problem Solving	Expressive Arts	Prepare for and participate in concerts, shows and events which the local community can enjoy. Look back at how successful the preparation/organising of the event was and suggest ways of improving the next one	Citizenship, working with others, enterprise, creativity
Communication	Technologies	Build models and work with different materials that are showcased in a presentation to others in a group	Sustainability, creativity, numeracy
	Social Science	Research people and events in the past to compare with current culture/economic dilemmas	Sustainability, ICT, graphical information, citizenship, literature/art/music
Numeracy	Health and Wellbeing	Calculate own BMI, use charts to interpret and decide on any action for change. Plan and carry out changes and see to what extent they worked	Personalisation of learning, religious and moral education, ICT, Problem solving
		Weigh and measure for recipes for school fair food dishes, discuss sources of ingredients, use oven temperatures and time calculations to make dishes, calculate price for dish	Enterprise, citizenship, sustainability, communication, working with others

	Science	Record measures in experiments and calculate from given equations in physics	Working with others, sustainability, ICT
ICT	Religious and moral education (denominational schools)	Use internet web quests, blogs and wikis to develop knowledge and discuss understanding of significant aspects of Catholic Christian faith and an understanding of other Christian traditions and world religions	Communication, citizenship, working with others
	Expressive Arts	Use MP3 to record reactions to photos/paintings/music. Upload to e-portfolio, own website or blog	Creativity, working with others, sustainability, citizenship
Working with Others	Science	Learn to design and use experiments to assist 'buddied learning'	Citizenship, creativity
		Roles within co-operative approaches to research investigations of the natural world	Citizenship, sustainability, communication, numeracy
	Mathematics	Use group work investigation in measuring of different circles to establish relationship between radius and circumference	Numeracy, citizenship, communication, problem solving

Discussion points

- ◆ Consider how your curriculum design will deliver the activities that develop and reinforce learning in Core Skills. What are the challenges?
- ◆ Is this one of your critical aspects when planning, designing and checking coverage?
- ◆ What continuing support/staff development is needed? What would help?