

# Building the habits of... Ethical Informed Citizens



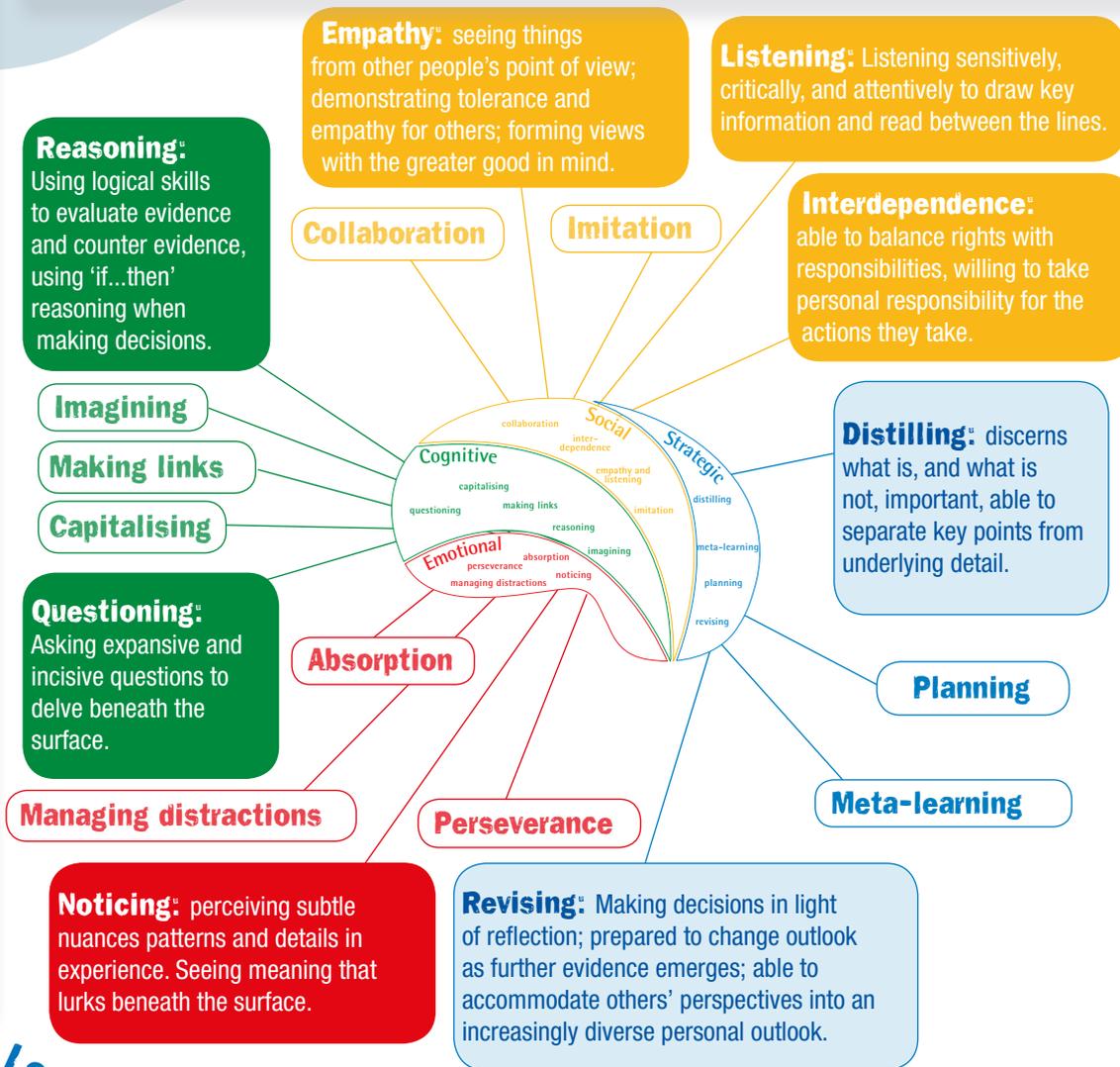
## Successful Futures: a new curriculum for Wales

The new curriculum is shaped by four statements of purpose that emphasise the importance of longer-term outcomes designed to equip young people to thrive in an increasingly complex and rapidly changing world. One of these purposes states that young people should develop as **Ethical, Informed Citizens**, ready to learn throughout their lives, and the subject of this resource.

## Ethical Informed Citizens:

- find, evaluate and use evidence in forming views
- engage with contemporary issues based upon their knowledge and values
- understand and exercise their human and democratic responsibilities and rights
- understand and consider the impact of their actions when making choices and acting
- are knowledgeable about their culture, community, society and the world, now and in the past
- respect the needs and rights of others, as a member of a diverse society
- show their commitment to the sustainability of the planet
- are ready to be citizens of Wales and the world

**Uniting the models of Successful Futures and Building Learning Power.** All powerful learners cultivate a set of key learning characteristics. Ethical, Informed Citizens would deploy a subset of these characteristics, the most important of which are highlighted below.



**Learning behaviours to build Ethical Informed Citizens**

## The BLP approach



There are two main parts to the approach:

A a model of a learner and learning, in terms of a set of characteristics that work together to make a person a highly capable learner; we use 'learning power' to describe the effect. (Several of these characteristics appear in this resource.)

B a view of the kind of pedagogy that will nurture and strengthen the learning characteristics in young people.

These are bound together by the fundamental idea that 'learning is learnable', and by explicit, detailed discussion of how learning works, supported by a rich repertoire of words and action.

## Wider Strategic Skills

The Successful Futures' view of **Ethical Informed Citizens** covers a range of learning habits:

- **cognitive** habits which help learners handle information effectively
- **social** habits which help them work effectively with others
- **emotional** habits which help them manage the feelings of learning positively.

Building Learning Power adds a fourth aspect to this recipe for success: **Strategic**, or meta-cognitive, learning habits.

In the case of an Ethical Informed Citizen, these strategic habits would include *Distilling* - discerning what is and is not important; and *Revising* - willing to amend their views in the light of evidence.