

Meta Skills Development in Modern Languages

Meta Skill 1:	Communicating	Primary
Developed through:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Communicating confidently through different means such as verbal, written and digital resources in a range of contexts➤ using what they see and hear to form and justify opinions, and find out more information➤ sharing, explaining, and justifying their own views, and beginning to use language to influence others➤ listening carefully to actively understand the speaker and displaying interest➤ listening to other points of view➤ practising skills to help with understanding and mentally processing written information or verbal communication		

Meta Skill 2:	Sense Making	Primary
Developed through:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Language learning lends itself to the process of classifying information based on key features, seeing patterns and anomalies➤ Language learners develop their ability to examine information by breaking it into component parts➤ To communicate effectively they must be able to organise their thinking and demonstrate structure to present ideas in a logical order➤ Through learning about countries where the language they are learning is spoken, they are asking, researching and answering questions about the world, extending their own world map➤ Decoding longer texts (spoken and written) develops pupils' ability to break down complex problems into more manageable parts		

Meta Skill 3:	Focussing	Primary
Developed through:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ categorising vocabulary and categorising within grammar concepts➤ understanding relationships between words / concepts➤ summarising information both read and heard➤ focus on specific items in listening to target language➤ filtering out non-essential information in reading texts and when listening		

Meta Skill 4:	Curiosity	Secondary
Developed through:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Learning a language promotes pupils' curiosity about the unfamiliar and unexpected➤ Pupils are encouraged to pose relevant questions to develop their understanding		

- They actively build on their own and other's ideas and experiences to solve problems and develop understanding
- They ask questions and use their creativity skills to think laterally in a range of contexts
- Pupils frequently listen carefully to other's opinions and ideas, and using these to develop their own thinking
- Pupils learn about other countries and cultures, and are encouraged to ask questions about why things are different

Meta Skill 5:	Collaborating	Secondary
<p>Developed through:</p> <p>Many tasks in ML lend themselves to group work. Within these tasks, pupils develop their abilities to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ be willing to help others with their learning and demonstrate learning to others ➤ show sensitivity to other's feelings and being willing to challenge poor behaviour in others, if necessary ➤ share, explain and justify their views ➤ giving feedback in addition to responding to feedback from peers and adults ➤ evaluating and changing their approach in group work if necessary ➤ listening to other points of view and taking part in agreeing through compromise ➤ be aware of their own responsibilities and co-ordinating their activities with others during group work ➤ combining research tools with use of questioning, and presenting ideas in a logical way to others ➤ taking the lead in a group situation and ensuring that the group has a clear direction and purpose 		

Meta Skill 6:	Adapting	Secondary
<p>Developed through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Pupils are encouraged to reflect on work produced and to see where it can be improved in range, accuracy and content. ➤ Language learners need to be able to adapt to unexpected circumstances, particularly when dealing with conversations. "unexpected" elements are included in examinations and are practised in BGE. ➤ Language learners are most successful when they learn vocabulary and grammar independently and this is encouraged 		