



## The Academic Canvas

KCLAS has developed the academic program based on building the 21<sup>st</sup> Century skills Model of Boston Consulting Group (BCG) and World Economic Forum (WEF). To thrive in today's innovation-driven economy; workers need a different mix of skills than in the past.

In addition to foundational skills like literacy and numeracy, they need competencies like collaboration, creativity and problem-solving, and character qualities like persistence, curiosity and initiative. Changes in the labour market have heightened the need for all individuals, to have these skills. In countries around the world, economies run on creativity, innovation and collaboration. Skilled jobs are more and more centred on solving unstructured problems and effectively analysing information.

KCLAS focuses its academics, co-curricular and extra-curricular initiatives to enhance the students' skills

- **Foundational literacy** represent how students apply core skills to everyday tasks. These skills serve as the base upon which students need to build more advanced and equally important competencies and character qualities. This category includes not only the globally assessed skills of *literacy* and *numeracy*, but also *scientific literacy*, *ICT literacy*, *financial literacy* and *cultural and civic literacy*. Acquisition of these skills has been the traditional focus of education around the world. Historically, being able to understand written texts and quantitative relationships was sufficient for entry into the workforce. Now, these skills represent just the starting point on the path towards mastering 21st-century skills.
- **Competencies** describe how students approach complex challenges. For example, *critical thinking* is the ability to identify, analyse and evaluate situations, ideas and information in order to formulate responses to problems. *Creativity* is the ability to imagine and devise innovative new ways of addressing problems, answering questions or expressing meaning through the application, synthesis or repurposing of knowledge. *Communication* and *collaboration* involve working in coordination with others to convey information or tackle problems. Competencies such as these are essential to the 21st-century workforce, where being able to critically evaluate and convey knowledge, as well as work well with a team, has become the norm.
- **Character qualities** describe how students approach their changing environment. Amid rapidly changing markets, character qualities such as *persistence* and *adaptability* ensure greater resilience and success in the face of obstacles. *Curiosity* and *initiative* serve as starting points for discovering new concepts and

ideas. *Leadership* and *social and cultural awareness* involve constructive interactions with others in socially, ethically and culturally appropriate ways.

