

BFF  
or  
very, very different?



SQA/SDS joint research programme: Measuring meta-skills?

SQA/Young Scot: What Life Skills?

SQA DAS – Self assess ‘integrity’ app & SBL /multiple choice?



Subject to social, political and economic trends

Enterprise education of 1990s eclipsed in 2010 by  
teamwork  
social and emotional skills  
metacognition

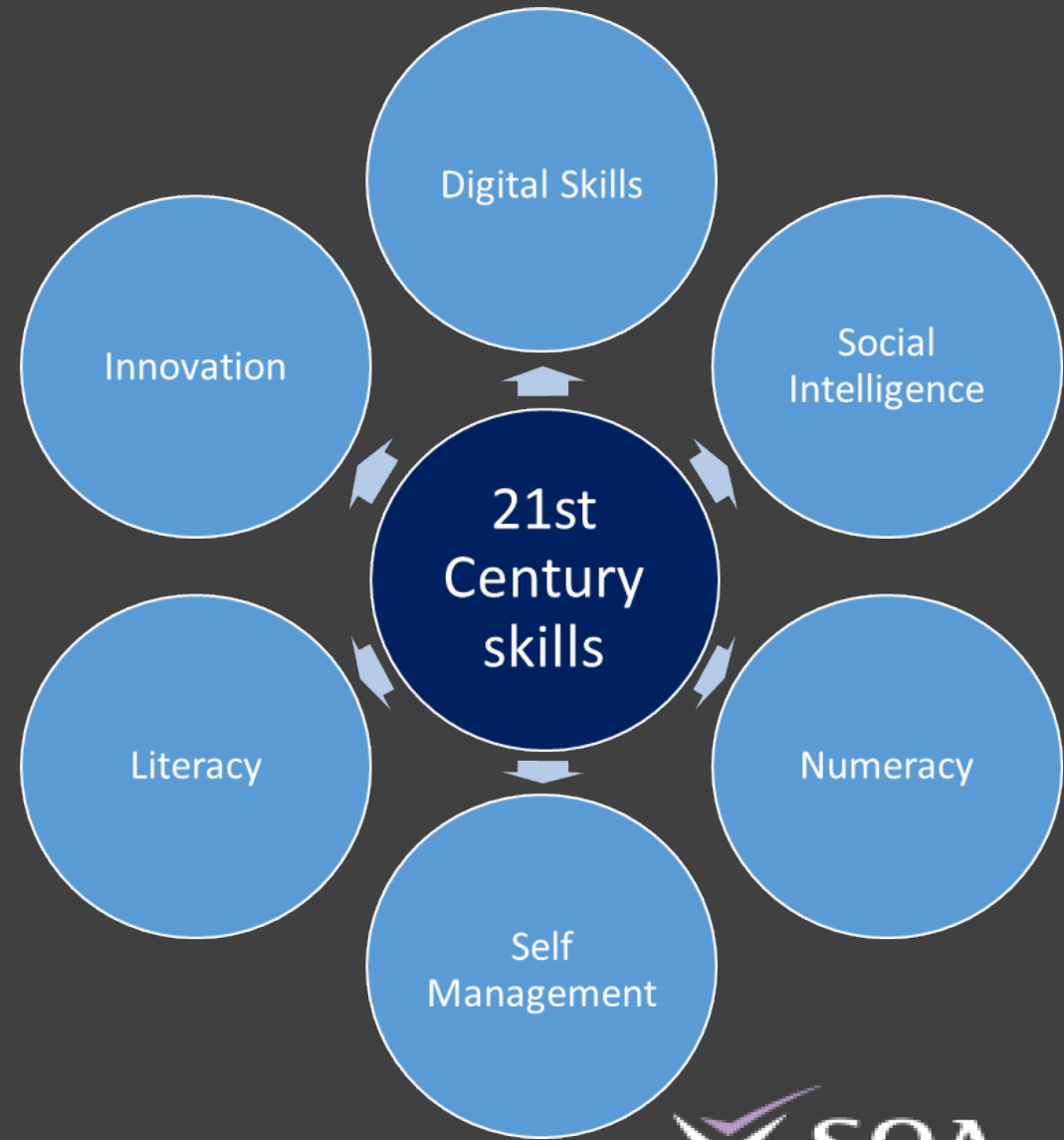
Literature review: discussions

- Content/Context v Process/Transferability debate ongoing
- Voices of business and workplaces too strong? GIRFEC voice lost?
- How many learners are going to become knowledge intensive workers in a polarised job market?
- Is 'empowerment' of learners mere rhetoric?

SQA

- Coherence across system
- Advance workplace learning
- Learner /Workforce development
- Agile workforce
- Prepare for future
- Share research/ methods
- Learn through collaboration
- Minimise risk

SDS



# SQA/SDS joint research in this area

## 'Skills for Scotland'

Self management

Social Intelligence

Focussing

Integrity

Adapting

Initiative

Feeling

Collaborating

Cultural awareness

Leading

Ethics/  
personal values

## Skills for the future: Meta-skills

Timeless, higher order skills that support the development of additional skills and promote success in whatever context the future brings

### Self management

Taking responsibility for your own behaviour and wellbeing

### Social intelligence

Awareness of others' feelings, needs, and concerns in order to effectively navigate and negotiate complex social relationships and environments

### Innovation

The ability to define and create significant positive change

### Focussing

The ability to manage cognitive load by filtering and sorting information in order to maintain a sense of focus in an age of information overload and constant change

### Communicating

The ability to openly and honestly share information in a way that creates mutual understanding about others' thoughts, intentions and ideas

### Curiosity

The desire to know or learn something in order to inspire new ideas and concepts

- Sorting
- Attention
- Filtering

- Receiving information
- Listening
- Giving information
- Storytelling

- Observation
- Questioning
- Information sourcing
- Problem recognition

### Integrity

Acting in an honest and consistent manner based on a strong sense of self and personal values

### Feeling

Considering impact on other people by being able to take a range of different thoughts, feelings and perspectives into account

### Creativity

The ability to imagine and think of new ways of addressing problems, answering questions or expressing meaning

- Self awareness
- Ethics
- Self control

- Empathy
- Social conscience

- Imagination
- Idea generation
- Visualising
- Maker mentality

### Adapting

The ability and interest to continue to enlarge knowledge, understanding and skills in order to remain adaptive and resilient as circumstances change

### Collaborating

The ability to work in coordination with others to convey information and tackle problems

### Sense making

The ability to determine the deeper meaning or significance of what is being expressed and to recognise wider themes and patterns in information

- Openness
- Critical reflection
- Adaptability
- Self-learning
- Resilience

- Relationship building
- Teamworking & collaboration
- Social perceptiveness
- Global & cross-cultural competence

- Pattern recognition
- Holistic thinking
- Synthesis
- Opportunity recognition
- Analysis

### Initiative

Readiness to get started and act on opportunities built on a foundation of self belief

### Leading

The ability to lead others by inspiring them with a clear vision and motivating them to realise a vision

### Critical thinking

The ability to evaluate and draw conclusions from information in order to solve complex problems and make decisions

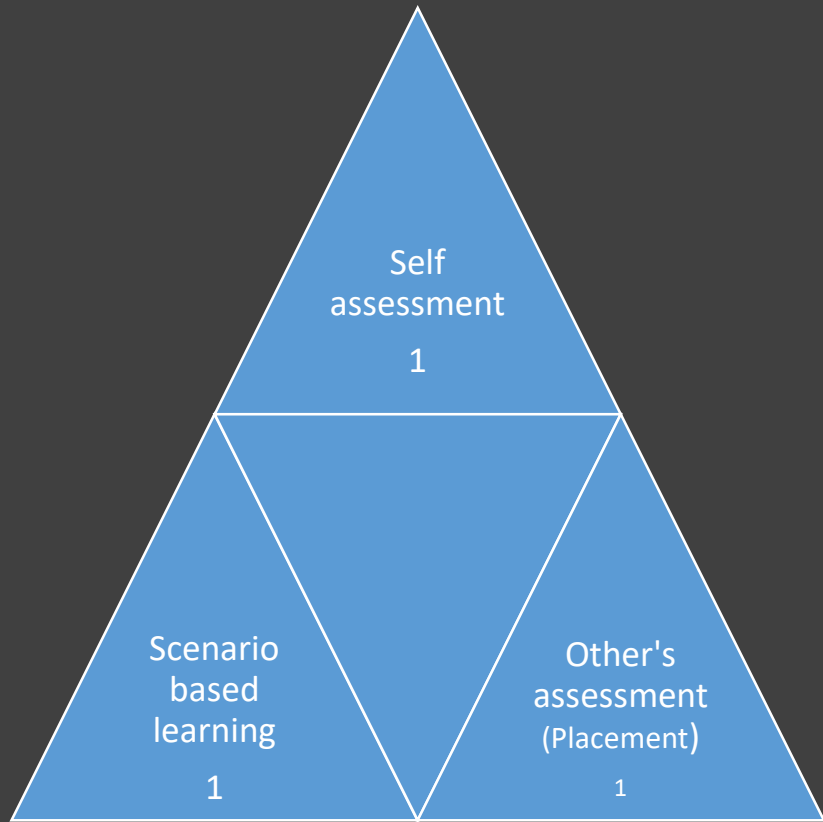
- Courage
- Independent thinking
- Risk taking
- Decision making
- Self belief
- Self motivation
- Responsibility
- Enterprising

- Inspiring others
- Influencing
- Motivating others
- Developing others
- Change catalyst

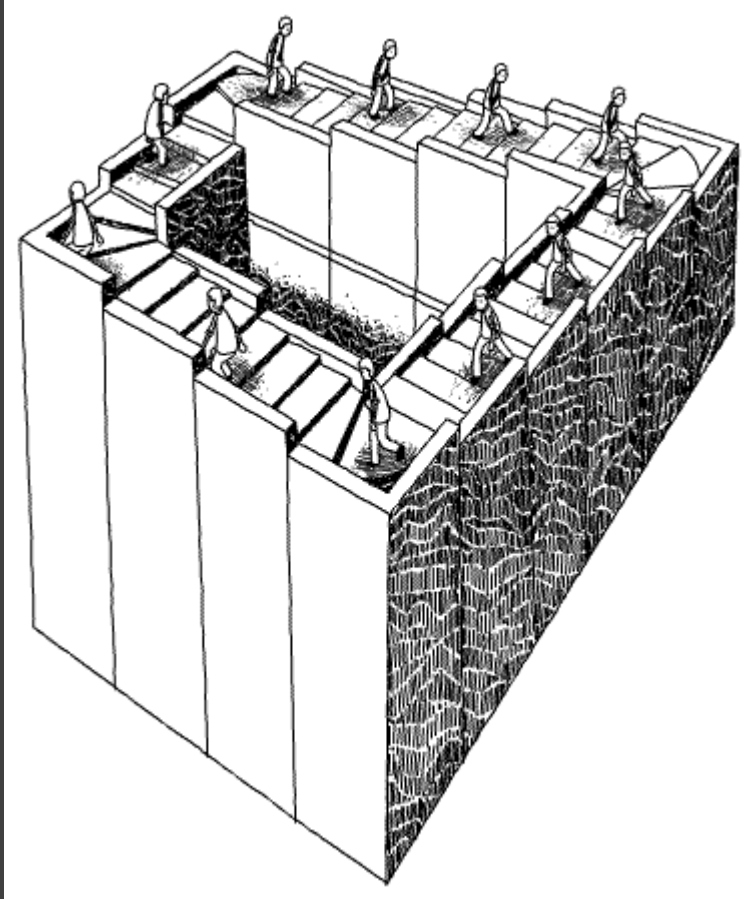
- Deconstruction
- Logical thinking
- Judgement
- Computational thinking

# Triangulation:

Self assessment; assessment by other; scenario based learning items



Links closely with [D&A Attributes](#); [Digital me](#) 



The Core/Meta/Aptitudes... paradigm:

(Soft /Core/Meta Skills) [Stanford Research](#) suggests:

Success is based on 15% technical/domain knowledge and on 85% soft/people skills.

Educational expenditure, time and money, is spent on domain knowledge and hardly any on soft ( aka Core & Meta) skills.

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SQA DAS: Self assess 'integrity' app & SBL /multiple choice?

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