Questions for Reflection and Discussion:

- Think of a recent experience that required collaboration. Drawing upon your own experience, why is the development of this competency important?
- How can a focus on collaboration help students achieve the learner outcomes? How might it apply and/or look different in your subject area and grade level?
- Incorporating collaboration may require a pedagogical shift. How might you champion that shift in your curriculum/classroom/school? What might look and/or sound different?
- What strategies and approaches have you incorporated in your program to support the development of collaborative skills?
- What type of classroom environment supports collaboration? How might we provide diverse opportunities for collaboration beyond face to face learning?
- How might we adapt our practice to guide students with varying levels of interpersonal skills and communicative abilities to develop this competency?
- How might we guide students to approach this competency with a growth mindset, help them learn to lead and be lead, and value the process, not just focus on the targeted result?
- How might we model behaviours, ways of thinking and language in order to integrate this competency in our daily practice and help students practice metacognition?
- Brainstorm examples of what feedback would look like/sound like to foster student growth in collaboration.
- How do we instill in our students an appreciation of collaboration?

Sample Strategies for Educators:

- Model and use collaboration skills, attitudes and vocabulary in your classroom.
- Teach students about appropriate and respectful ways of working together within an organization, group or culture.
- Develop norms for working together. Norms such as equity of voice, active listening, confidentiality and respecting competing views.
- Allow students to reflect on how well they are “living” their norms.
- Engage students in mini-lessons about effective collaboration: conflict resolution skills, shared leadership, decision-making skills, running meetings, how to compromise, assign/complete roles and responsibilities.
- Provide time for students to reflect on and evaluate their growth related to collaborating with others.
- Have students engage in jigsaw activities.

Sample Student Learning Tasks

- Think pair share
- Fish bowl debate
- Group problem solving
- Reach a group consensus or decision
- Create, enact or change group roles
- Peer feedback
- Collaboratively set criteria
- Share data from different sources
- Collaborate online (e.g. Google Apps, Today's Meet, Yammer, Social Media, and blogs)

For more information:

Health and Life Skills Guide to Implementation (K9) Appendix C
Alberta Learning
* Peels Growing Success Monograph Series: Rethinking Professional Learning 1 - 12 (Summary of Katz and Dack's work)
The Science Behind Classroom Norming, Edutopia
Protocols, Expeditionary Learning, Engage NY

*Note there are additional collaborative student learning tasks provided at Protocols, Expeditionary Learning, Engage NY.*