

**Gulf Islands Secondary School**  
Creativity | Learning | Community

**Six Impactful Strategies**

These classroom strategies were selected based on the work staff have done through our EPIC School Plan process over the past few years. These six strategies were identified as impactful strategies that can lead towards desired Intellectual, Personal and Social, and Career and Life Development results, as described in the document: the Attributes of a GISS Learner.

1. **Collaborative Learning** - Teachers design collaborative learning tasks that build relationships and strengthen learning experiences. Students are explicitly taught collaboration skills and work together, building their own questions and dialogue, and deepening their understandings and skills.
2. **'Cultural and Personal Identity' Responsive Teaching** - Teachers acknowledge, respond to, and celebrate the cultures and identities of others to offer equitable access to learning for students from all cultures and identities.
3. **Authentic and Real-World Learning** - Classroom teachers design and implement learning experiences that are real-world or authentic experiences. These experiences could include project, production, inquiry or place-based learning and may be cross-curricular. These experiences often have elements of student choice and may include personalized learning goals.
4. **Purposeful Learning** - Teachers are explicit about what will be learned and why. Learning intentions and success criteria will be explicitly discussed and may be co-created. Exemplars may be shared and discussed ahead of time to build understanding of the success criteria.
5. **Descriptive and Ongoing Feedback** - Teachers give regular, ongoing descriptive feedback on student understanding and skills, describing strengths and stretches, and helping students see how they can improve in time to adjust and make improvements.
6. **Assessment** - Assessment is clearly linked to curricular competencies and course content. Teachers use a standards-based grading approach using proficiency levels. Teachers consistently seek ways to assess learning through multiple modes (observation, conversation, and artifacts/products).

