



POSITIVE PERSONAL & CULTURAL IDENTITY
Competency Profiles



DRAFT

DRAFTDRAFTDRAFTDRAFTDRAFTDRAFTDRAFTDRAFTDRAFTDRAFT



POSITIVE PERSONAL & CULTURAL IDENTITY

Competency Profiles

OVERVIEW



A positive personal and cultural identity is the awareness, understanding, and appreciation of all the facets that contribute to a healthy sense of oneself. It includes awareness and understanding of one's family background, heritage(s), language(s), beliefs, and perspectives in a pluralistic society. Students who have a positive personal and cultural identity value their personal and cultural narratives, and understand how these shape their identity. Supported by a sense of self-worth, self-awareness, and positive identity, students become confident individuals who take satisfaction in who they are, and what they can do to contribute to their own well-being and to the well-being of their family, community, and society.

Development of positive personal and cultural identity begins within families, before students enter formal schooling, and is expanded and enhanced at every level of life and schooling.

The three facets described below are interwoven and interrelated with each other, and with other competencies.

1. Relationships and cultural contexts

Students understand that their relationships and cultural contexts help to shape who they are. ("Culture" is meant in its broadest sense, including identifiers such as ethnicity, nationality, language, ability, sex/gender, age, geographic region, sexuality, and religion.) Students define themselves in terms of their relationship to others and their relationship to the world (people and place) around them.

SAMPLE “I” STATEMENTS

- I can describe my family and community.
- I am able to identify the different groups that I belong to.
- I understand that my identity is made up of many interconnected aspects (such as life experiences, family history, heritage, peer groups).
- I understand that learning is continuous and my concept of self and identity will continue to evolve.

2. Personal values and choices

Students define what they value. They understand how what they value has been influenced by their life experiences. They identify ways in which what they value helps to shape their choices in all contexts of their lives.

SAMPLE “I” STATEMENTS

- I can tell what is important to me.
- I can explain what my values are and how they affect choices I make.
- I can tell how some important aspects of my life have influenced my values.
- I understand how my values shape my choices.

3. Personal strengths and abilities

Students acknowledge their strengths and abilities, and explicitly consider these as assets that can help them in all aspects of their lives. Students understand that they are unique and are a part of larger communities. They explain how they are using their strengths and abilities in their families, their relationships, and their communities.

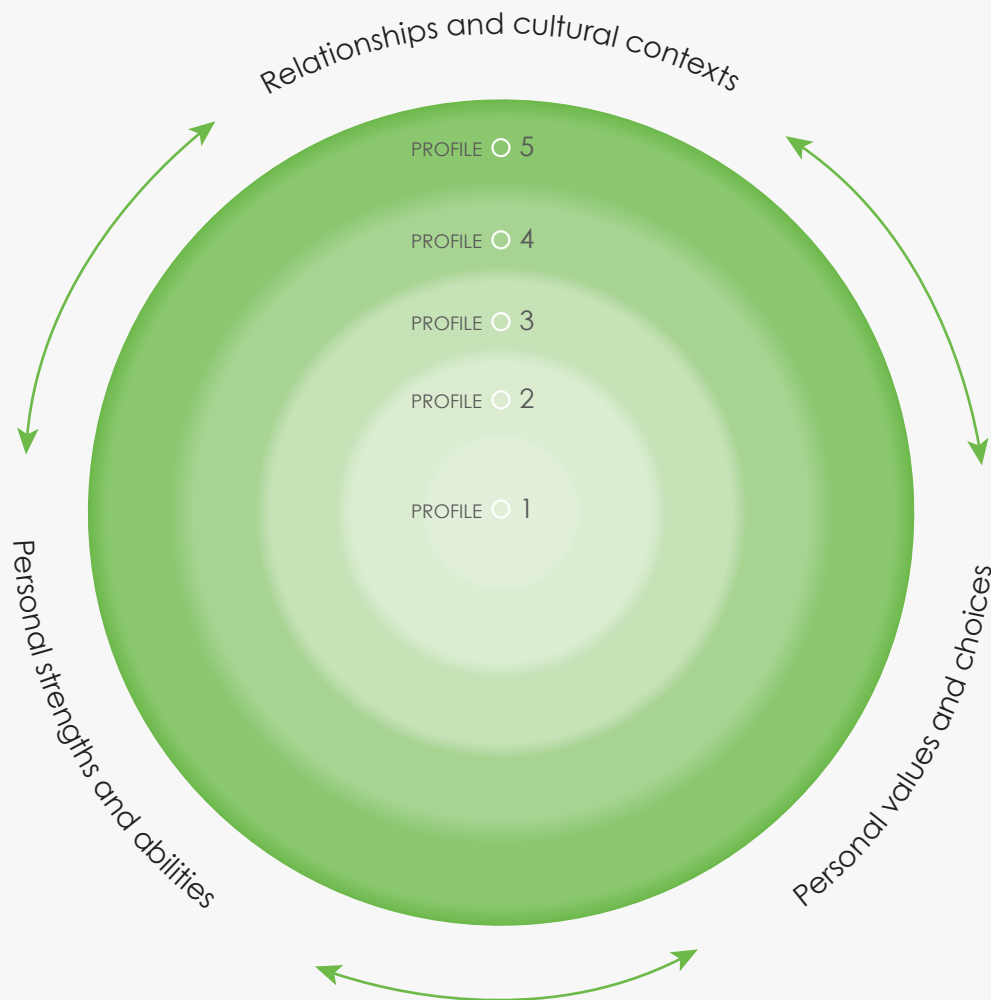
SAMPLE “I” STATEMENTS

- I can identify my individual characteristics.
- I can describe/express my attributes, characteristics, and skills.
- I can reflect on my strengths and identify my potential as a leader in my community.
- I understand I will continue to develop new abilities and strengths to help me meet new challenges.

POSITIVE PERSONAL AND CULTURAL IDENTITY COMPETENCY



The Positive Personal and Cultural Identity competency profiles emphasize the concept of expanding and growing. They are progressive and additive, as illustrated by the concentric circles in this graphic.



Set of Profiles: Positive Personal and Cultural Identity Competency

These profile descriptions include three facets that underpin Positive Personal and Cultural Identity Competency: relationships and cultural contexts, personal values and choices, and personal strengths and abilities. The three facets are interrelated and are embedded within the profile descriptions, which are written from a student's point of view.

PROFILE	DESCRIPTION
---------	-------------



1

I am aware of myself as different from others.
I know my name. With some help, I can identify some of my attributes.



2

I am aware of different aspects of myself. I can identify people, places, and things that are important to me.
I can identify some of my individual characteristics. I can describe my family, home, and/or community (people and/or place).
I can explain what I like and dislike. I am able to explain what interests me.



3

I can describe different aspects of my identity. I have pride in who I am.
I am able to identify different groups that I belong to. I am able to represent aspects of my cultural contexts (such as family, communities, school, peer groups) through words and/or images. I can describe what is important to me. I can describe and demonstrate pride in my positive qualities, characteristics, and/or skills. I can explain how I am able to use these to contribute to my home and/or community.



4

I understand that my identity is influenced by many aspects of my life. I am aware that my values shape my choices, and contribute to making me a unique individual.
I understand that my identity is made up of many interconnected aspects of my life such as experiences, family history, heritage, where I live, and groups I identify with (including family, friends, peers, and virtual communities). I understand that what I value influences the choices I make and how I present myself in various contexts. I understand that my characteristics, qualities, strengths, and challenges make me unique, and are an important part of the communities I belong to (including people and places).



5

I can identify how my life experiences have contributed to who I am; I recognize the continuous and evolving nature of my identity.
I understand that my learning is continuous and my concept of self and identity will continue to evolve. I can describe how aspects of my life experiences, family history, background, and where I live (or have lived) have influenced my values and choices. I can identify how my strengths can help me meet challenges, and I understand that I will continue to develop new skills, abilities, and strengths.
I can identify how my challenges can be opportunities for growth. I can identify my potential as a leader in the communities I belong to.