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# Collaboration Workbook



#### Introduction

This workbook is for you to use to support your learning and development in Collaboration.

Here you'll find short exercises, helpful information and space to record your reflections.

It can be a valuable resource to revisit and add further learning and insights.

We hope you enjoy the session!

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#### **Collaboration - An overview**

Collaboration is when individuals and groups work towards a common goal. Good collaboration is often the secret behind any project's success.

Working in partnership helps everyone be more efficient and productive. Working together, we can use our different skills and knowledge to tackle tough challenges and projects.

When we work together, we learn and innovate through hearing diverse perspectives and fresh ideas that can spark new thinking. Through understanding others' successes and mistakes, we can use these to grow and develop.

Why is collaboration important?	

#### Successful collaborators

There are many successful collaborations and business partnerships we can take inspiration from.

From Bill Gates and Paul Allen to Nike and Apple, we can learn a lot from others who collaborated effectively through sharing a mutual passion, their collective longterm visions and getting the best out of each other.

Look at successful collaborations and explore why they were successful, what were the ingredients to making a great partnership, and how did they work together to create a transformative change?

What other successful partnerships can you think of?
What could you learn from them?

#### **Universal** goals

Setting universal goals within a team aligns everybody and ensures everyone is working towards the same objectives.

When collaborating, you may want to consider including the following goals:

- Transparency to enhance your collaborative process.
- Adaptability to encourage innovation.
- Clarity over goals, roles and responsibilities.
- Organisations and accountability to ensure the success of a project.
- Open-mindedness to embrace varied perspectives and fresh ideas and spark curiosity.
- Communication to cultivate a transparent space empowering each person to express themselves authentically.

What other goals would you want to include?

#### **Collaboration | Scenario 1**

You're working in a team on a new idea, and everyone collaborates effectively. However, one person isn't being a team player and is very pessimistic about everyone's thoughts and not fulfilling their roles and responsibilities. What would you suggest the team do to rectify this situation?

#### **Collaboration | Scenario 2**

There's someone in your group who you know has great ideas when you speak to them one-to-one, but when they are with the wider group, they don't say anything or contribute to the ideas of the group. How could you empower this person to share their thoughts and collaborate more?

#### **Collaboration top tips**

- 1. Honesty enhances transparency and fosters trust within a team.
- 2. Critical thinking examines all perspectives through listening to what others contribute you could create a breakthrough that moves a project forward in new and exciting ways.
- 3. Conflict resolution skills allow you to resolve problems positively.
- 4. Reliability and trust help teams meet deadlines and form well-functioning partnerships.
- 5. Listening helps anticipate the needs of others and preempt challenges before they arise, allowing effective responses.
- 6. Balanced decision-making sets aside self-interest and guides you towards choices driven towards team goals.

What other collaboration tips have you some as

What other collaboration tips have you come across:
1.
2.
3.
4.
5.

#### Role models

In the short animation in the video, we shared some well-known successful collaborations.

It can be helpful to look to collaborations you admire and use them as role models to develop your collaboration skills.

Great places to find role models are platforms such as LinkedIn, or through TED talks, or even podcasts. Inspiration is everywhere, and we can learn a lot from each other.

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#### The benefits of collaboration

Collaboration catalyses progress, enabling individuals and groups to achieve more together than they could on their own. Here are a few of the benefits:

- Diverse perspectives lead to innovative solutions.
- Creativity sparks ideas, inspires others and cultivates new approaches.
- Knowledge sharing allows individuals to contribute their unique insights.
- Efficient problem-solving through collective skills and collaboration.
- Increased productivity making workloads more manageable and enabling team members to focus on what they excel at
- Personal growth through peer learning.

What are your collaboration strengths?
Where do you need to develop your collaboration skills?

#### **Next steps**

- 1. Revisit your workbook once a month or every two months to check in and reflect on your skills.
- 2. Keep up to date with collaborative working methods and consider how to incorporate them into your life.
- 3. Ask others for feedback on your collaboration skills, where you could improve, and where you already collaborate effectively.
- 4. Look at collaboration skills like communication, relationship building, and a growth mindset.

What are you going to do to improve your

5. Practice, practice, practice.

collaboration skills?	
1.	
2.	
3.	

#### **Summary**

"If everyone keeps moving forward together, then success takes care of itself".

#### Henry Ford

Remember, collaboration is a journey of exploration, learning and growth. Take inspiration from role models who have forged successful partnerships that have made a meaningful impact.

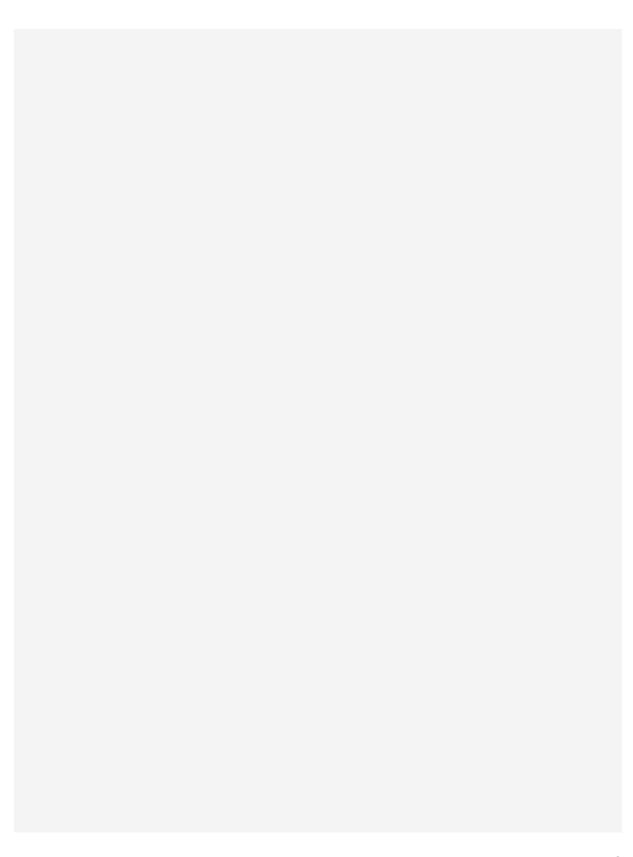
Treat every collaboration as a learning experience, nurture relationships and embrace diverse perspectives.

Collaborate, communicate, and create – your next partnership could take you somewhere new and exciting.

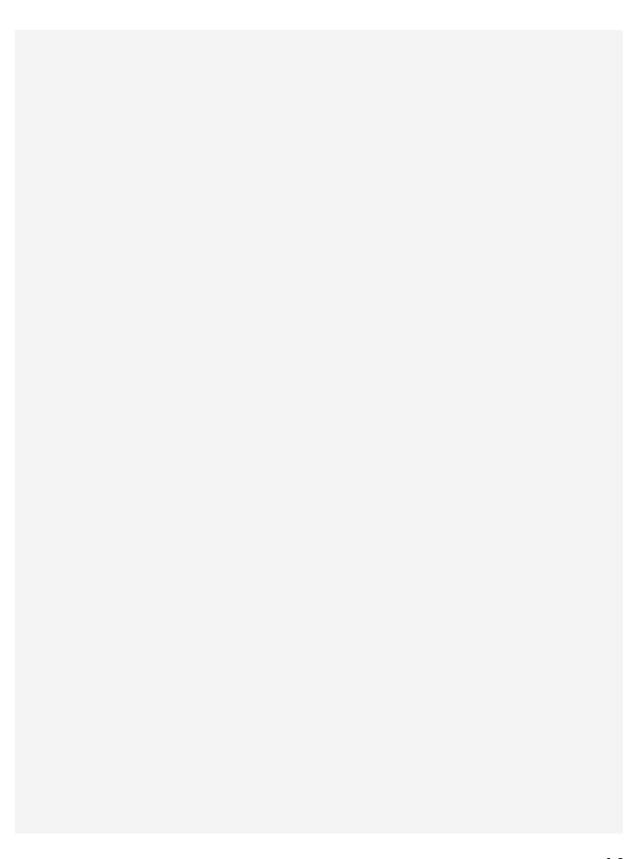
#### **Further links**

- Careers at Deloitte
- Our programmes
- Our events
- Frequently asked questions
- Dot the Bot (ask a question)

# Reflection and insights



# Reflection and insights



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