WILL WE EVER USE THIS?

There are three main types of learning you will do at school.

1. Things where you might use the content later on in life.

   Examples:
   - writing letters or other forms of communication in English
   - learning a language like French, German, Japanese etc
   - measurement topics (like area and perimeter) in Mathematics
   - consumer arithmetic eg. interest rate calculations, different types of loans
   - learning about the human biology and how it functions in Science or Health.

2. Things where you won't use the content specifically, but you might use the skills or techniques that you learnt. In this case the content is just a vehicle to teach you particular skills.

   Examples:
   - how to give an oral presentation or speech or talk eg. in History, English etc.
   - how to work with others in groups, to share, listen and compromise eg. in Drama
   - how to develop logical, problem solving thought processes eg. in Maths
   - how to analyse different types of information and data eg. Many Subjects!
   - how to be creative and develop new ideas eg. Design and Technology, Art etc.

3. Things where you are 'learning how to learn'.

   Examples:
   - learning how to ask for help when it is needed
   - learning how to approach something new that you've never seen before
   - learning how to study as you will definitely have to still keep learning after school
   - learning how to manage your learning when you don’t like the teacher’s style
   - learning how to build new neural pathways by trying challenging or difficult work

So next time you feel like asking your teacher ‘Why do we have to learn this’, stop and instead ask yourself, ‘Could I use this in later life maybe?’

If not, ‘Are there skills I am learning that maybe I can transfer to something else in later life?’

And if not, ‘Then am I stretching and challenging my mind, am I building new neural pathways and am I learning skills about how to learn?’

Enhanced Learning Educational Services
“the study skills specialist”