

What does assessment feedback look like?

Assessments will take place throughout the year in every subject. These will provide the teacher with the information about your child's progress and will form the basis of their report. After each assessment your child will receive feedback in the form of:

WWW: (What Went Well) How your child has met the success criteria.

EBI: (Even Better If) What your child needs to do to improve.

SPaG (Spelling, Punctuation & Grammar) How they can improve their literacy skills.

They will then be given some time to edit their work during lesson time entitled DIRT.

Why is a number or a grade unhelpful?

Research has highlighted that children who receive a grade at the end of an assessment make less progress than those who receive targets about how to improve. Mistakes are inevitable and if your child is not making mistakes then the work is not challenging enough. We wish to encourage children to avoid making a judgment about their "ability" and instead recognise that every mistake is an opportunity to learn.

When a student receives a grade, it becomes their main focus. It is essential that we break this habit and help them look for the advice for improvement.

How can I support my child?

The most helpful action you can take in supporting your child, is to encourage them to reflect on the feedback they have received. Spend some time each evening discussing the key learning objectives for the lessons that day and finding out what they remember from each lesson.

Try using the following questions:

1. What did your teacher want you to learn today?
2. Can you list three key knowledge facts from this lesson?
3. What errors did you make in the lesson?
4. What feedback have you received that has changed your understanding?

If your child cannot answer these questions, remind them that you will ask again at the end of the next day and encourage them to remember to make this a focus for a lesson of their choice. As the year develops, you will notice a marked improvement in their ability to share this with you.

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Feedback

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What is feedback?

Feedback is the advice and guidance that each child receives from their teacher about how to make progress. This might be in the form of:

- Displaying the correct answers
- Setting a target
- Teacher response to questions

This feedback is designed to help students understand the errors they have made and the steps they need to take in order to meet the assessment criteria.

What is the value of feedback?

Studies show that feedback, when **given** and **received** in the right way, impacts learning more than anything else. When used effectively it can add 8 months of learning.

However, it is really important to highlight that this is a **two-way process**. Students have to **actively engage** in the feedback they are given.

How is feedback given?

At DCS we deliver feedback in a range of ways:

- Displaying correct answers
- Providing model answers
- Self-assessment activities
- Addressing misconceptions
- Written response to assessments

How is feedback designed?

All of the teachers at DCS have a very clear understanding of the journey that the students need to take in order to achieve both excellent GCSE results and become highly proficient in their subject.

With this in mind, teachers map carefully the steps that our students must take in each unit; each year group and at each key stage. In every lesson, our students are provided with the key knowledge and skills required for them to achieve the next step.

However, children do not have photographic memories and even when they are fully focused, they may misunderstand or struggle to develop a skill. It is the teacher's role to monitor this and provide the students with further guidance and opportunities for recall and corrections.

Teachers monitor student attainment in a variety of ways including:

- ✓ Checking of books
- ✓ Questioning during the lessons
- ✓ Use of mini-whiteboards
- ✓ Quizzes
- ✓ Homework
- ✓ Assessments

Through this monitoring, the teachers are then able to decide what feedback your child needs in order to help them make the progress to meet their expected level.

Start Now!

At the beginning of every lesson, your child completes a 5 minute recall task we refer to as "Start Now!". This is done independently and tests their ability to remember the key knowledge that they have been taught.

At the end of the task, the students will be provided with feedback to help them assess their progress.

Purple pen

When your child is given any type of feedback, they will respond in purple pen. We can therefore track the key knowledge and skills that they need to focus on.

By editing their work in this colour, they are able to see what they need to revise . This is a really important skill. It allows them to develop an awareness of their own strengths and weaknesses and helps them become independent learners who take responsibility for their progress.

DIRT: Dedicated Improvement & Reflection Time

Students are given this time in the lesson in order to reflect on the feedback they have received and edit their work. This is a key part of progress as it corrects errors not just in their work but in their memory.