

Policy Name	Feedback Policy 2023
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Reviewed by	Claire Ralph
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# Landau Forte Academy QEMS Feedback and Assessment Policy

## Context

The Education Endowment Foundation's 'Teaching and Learning Toolkit' defines feedback as *'information given to the learner or teacher about the learner's performance relative to learning goals or outcomes. It should aim towards (and be capable of producing) improvement in students' learning. Feedback redirects or refocuses either the teacher's or the learner's actions to achieve a goal, by aligning effort and activity with an outcome. It can be about the output of the activity, the process of the activity, the student's management of their learning or selfregulation, or them as individuals (which tends to be the least effective). This feedback can be verbal or written, or can be given through tests or via digital technology. It can come from a teacher or someone taking a teaching role, or from peers.* 

Our academy recognises the importance of regular feedback as part of our teaching and learning principles and we are committed to maximising the effectiveness of its use in the classroom. We are also mindful of the workload implications of detailed written marking and of the research surrounding effective feedback.

According to extensive research carried out by the Education Endowment Foundation, effective feedback can improve student progress by +6 months. The study found that:

- providing feedback is well-evidenced and has a high impact on learning outcomes
- effective feedback tends to focus on the task, subject and self-regulation strategies: it provides specific information on how to improve
- feedback can be effective during, immediately after and some time after learning.
- feedback policies should not over specify the frequency of feedback
- feedback can come from a variety of sources studies have shown positive effects of feedback from teachers and peers. Feedback delivered by digital technology also has positive effects (albeit slightly lower than the overall average)
- different methods of feedback delivery can be effective and should not be limited exclusively to written marking. Studies of verbal feedback show slightly higher impacts overall (+7 months). Written marking may play one part of an effective feedback strategy - but it is crucial to monitor impacts on staff workload.

In addition to this, the DfE document *Eliminating Unnecessary Workload Around Marking*, found that ineffective marking:

- usually involves an excessive reliance on the labour intensive practices, such as extensive written comments in different colour pens, or the indication of when verbal feedback has been given by adding VF' on a pupil's work.
- It can be disjointed from the learning process, failing to help pupils improve their understanding. This can be because work is set and marked to a false timetable, and based on a policy of following a mechanistic timetable, rather than responding to pupils' needs.
- It can be dispiriting, for both teacher and pupil, by failing to encourage and engender motivation and resilience.
- It can be unmanageable for teachers, and teachers forced to mark work late at night and at weekends are unlikely to operate effectively in the classroom.

Other key documents that have informed the policy include:

• The DE Education Staff Wellbeing Charter: May 2021

- The DE Workload Reduction Toolkit for Feedback and Marking: October 2019
- Eliminating Unnecessary Workload Around Marking: 2016
- The Ofsted Education Inspection Framework: September 2021 School inspection handbook
- GOV.UK (<u>www.gov.uk</u>)

## Aims of the Policy

This policy has been written to align with and support the teaching and learning principles of the academy that ensures that teachers:

1) Use researched informed practices - the best bets.

2) Teach to the top so that all students have the opportunity to learn and remember the most challenging knowledge and concepts.

3) Understand that disciplinary literacy is key to unlocking learning in all subjects.

4) Use feedback effectively to move students forward in their learning.

5) Develop students' metacognitive skills so that they can learn independently and overcome challenges in their learning.

#### It aims to:

- maximise the progress of all students
- provide students with the most impactful help and support to improve
- provide strategies for students to know how to improve in all subjects
- give students dedicated time to improve their learning encourage a sense of pride in student work promote the whole school focus on disciplinary literacy effectively
- address teacher workload issues
- empower teachers to have the scope to create and devise the most effective methods of feedback in their subject areas
- eradicate the myth that the only type of effective feedback is that which can be "seen" because it is written
- promote the highest quality and consistent feedback practice in all lessons at all times

### **Policy Principles**

Our feedback has at its core a number of principles:

- the sole focus of feedback should be to further learning
- in order to provide feedback effectively, high quality instruction must take place that uses well planned formative assessment strategies to enable responsive teaching
- timing of feedback is not prescribed as it should consider the task that has been set, individual pupil needs and whole class understanding
- feedback should focus on task, subject and self-regulation strategies rather than pupil's personal characteristics
- time should be provided for students to complete improvement tasks in order to close the feedback loop.
- books should be checked regularly to ensure that work adheres to the academy 'Book Brilliance" expectations (Appendix 1)
- errors in spelling, punctuation and grammar should be identified during feedback activities using the academy literacy codes (Appendix 2)

### **Consistency of Feedback**

- Student responses to all feedback is to be completed in **purple pen** (e.g. things added/corrected/redrafted in lessons not just responses to written feedback). This is to enable students to revise and identify corrections easily
- Teachers are to continue to use **green pen** for any written feedback in books (e.g. individual comments, literacy codes)
- Individual feedback should be provided at appropriate calendared assessment points and in line with curriculum documentation.
- With the research and guidance on workload in mind, departments should devise their own feedback strategy that best suits their subject.

### Types of Feedback

Teacher feedback can be either written or verbal and take the following forms:

- Written Feedback e.g. live written feedback, whole class written feedback, individual written comments and coded marking
- Verbal feedback -e.g. whole class, individual live feedback, audio marking
- Self and peer assessment should also be used as valuable feedback method providing it is well scaffolded

See Appendix 3 for examples

#### Improvement Tasks

To close the feedback loop, time must be dedicated in lessons to respond to the feedback given. This may be at the point of immediate verbal feedback, or at planned periods within the curriculum; some of which will be stipulated within the assessment section of the policy.

#### Assessment Guidance

Topic assessments are the main form of summative assessment in the classroom for all year groups. These are pieces of assessed work that students complete in class, often at the end of a topic. Many are written assessments; some will be practical assessments. Topic assessments are set at key times to help teachers, students and parents understand how students are progressing with their learning. Topic assessments are planned and scheduled for the academic year by departments and in line with curriculum maps. All Topic assessments/PPEs should include a question level analysis (QLA), where appropriate, to enable specific strengths and weaknesses of students/groups.

In KS3, topic assessments are marked using percentage scores. This is to inform students how much of the assessment they have been successful in. Further to this, there are two calendared Key Assessment Task (KAT) windows where departments will issue assessments that reflect subject content up to that point across all key stages.

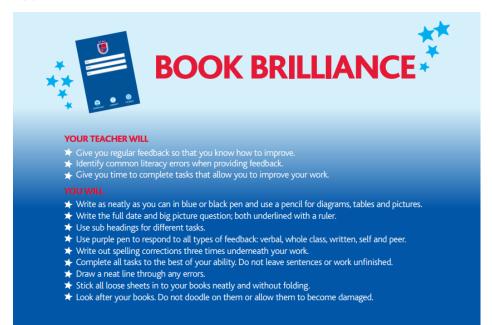
In KS4, topic assessments are marked using GCSE/Vocational grades. These grades are designed to help 'indicate' the approximate final grade a student has achieved on a single task, but do not predict that this will be their final grade in the subject. Further to this, there are two calendared PPE windows where students will sit full/partial examination papers.

In KS5, topic assessments are marked using A Level/Vocational grades. These grades are designed to help 'indicate' the approximate final grade a student has achieved on a single

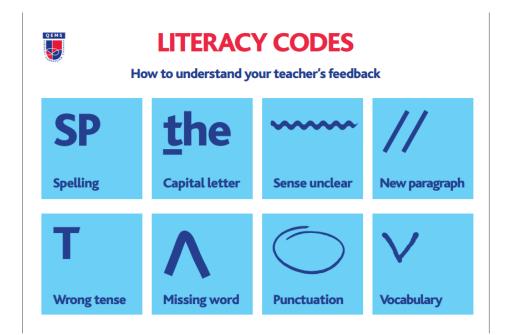
task, but do not predict that this will be their final grade in this subject. Further to this there are two calendared PPE windows where students will sit full/partial examination papers. The latter of the two for Y12 will inform progression onto Y13.

In lessons following a Topic assessment/PPE, teachers and students will use feedback strategies to close the gaps in learning that have been identified. This will include re-teaching of weaknesses for the majority of a group as well as individual improvement tasks. Future lessons should include knowledge retrieval tasks to ensure that students are able to remember this content.

#### Appendix 1



# Appendix 2



# Appendix 3

### Individual Verbal Feedback:

- Live Feedback Teacher circulates the classroom and provides individual verbal feedback for students for action.
- Audio feedback Teachers provide verbal feedback through the use of audio recording equipment (Dictaphone, MS Teams etc) and shares the file with students.

### Whole Class Verbal Feedback

• Use Active Observation strategy - this involves taking notes as you circulate the room in order to allow for responsive teaching and immediate verbal feedback to the class e.g. correcting misconceptions, modelling a response, sharing student work under the visualiser

Hunting not Fishing takes this one step further by thinking about the misconceptions that might occur and being ready to respond rapidly. To actively observe effectively, you must think through what you are going to look for, identifying it and going on the **'hunt'**.

(Appendix 4)

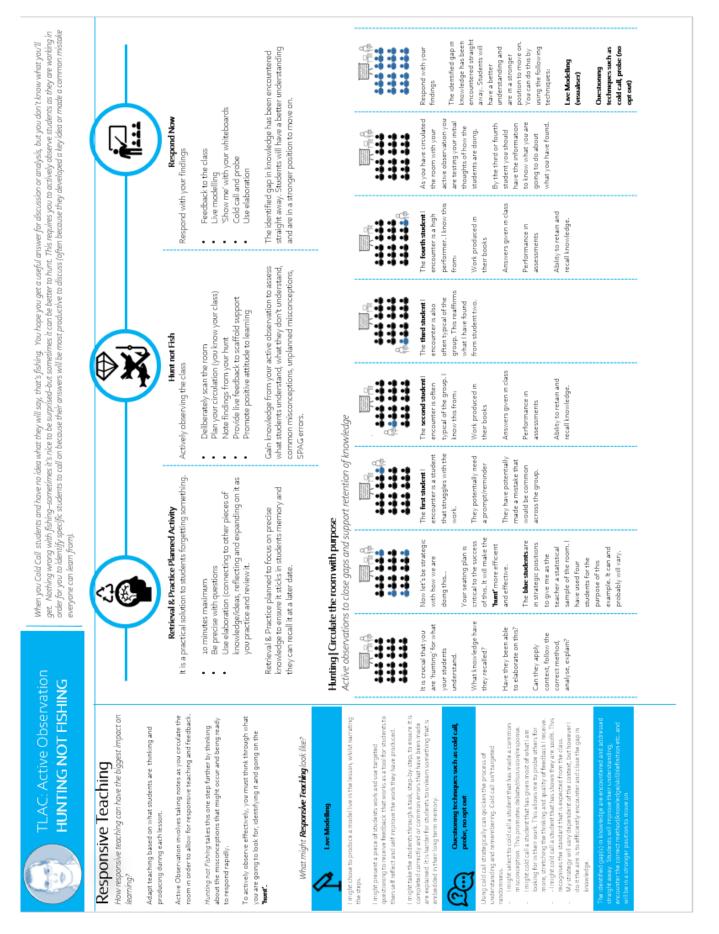
Provide whole class feedback during or after any formative assessment tasks in the lesson

#### Individual Written Feedback

This should be the least frequent form of feedback, however

#### Whole Class Written Feedback

• Whole class feedback sheet



# Appendix 4



Date	August 2023
Change Made	Various
Made By	Claire Ralph