

ABBAY ACADEMIES TRUST
Executive Headteacher: Mrs S J Moore

18th October 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

At Abbey Academies Trust, enabling every child to make excellent progress is very important to us and we continuously evaluate what makes the most impact on moving children's learning forward. We know that this involves children having high quality feedback that they can act upon.

Following research carried out by the Department for Education and the Education Endowment Fund, we have worked hard to develop a new feedback policy which clearly outlines our rationale behind feedback and its purpose.

The process of giving high quality and meaningful feedback can be seen in classrooms across all year groups and subjects. However, feedback will look different in different subjects. It won't necessarily look the same in English, maths, science or PSHE for example. Despite the difference between subjects, there are underlying principles which underpin high quality feedback. It is important that quality work is affirmed, reasons are given to support the feedback and misconceptions are identified and used as a focus for discussions either in the book, verbally or as part of the next lesson. Ultimately, children also need to be able to use feedback to help them progress in their understanding. Our new feedback policy identified this and recognises that the person best placed to judge what form of feedback will be most effective is the class teacher.

We are working hard to look in detail at what the children have achieved in each lesson and then rather than asking our adults to write long comments after the children have finished their work, we have asked them to consider the best form of feedback for individuals, groups and the class as a whole and spend their time designing the next lesson to help them make excellent progress. This means that there will not be as much written marking in the books as there has been in the past. However, this does not mean that work will go unchecked, uncorrected or unvalued. Quite the opposite, children will still receive praise and acknowledgement for their efforts but in a different way through work being shared with the class, small group or 1:1 conversations.

The children are aware that we are making this change and we have made it very clear that even though adults may not 'mark' in the traditional way every day, their work is very carefully analysed and assessed by their teachers after every lesson.

The new feedback policy is available on our website. Should you have any further questions please see your child's class teacher.

Yours sincerely



Mrs Sarah Moore
Executive Headteacher