



Dear Parents and Carers,

25 February 2025

We are looking forward to sharing your child's learning with you at parents' evening on Thursday 27th February. Prior to this, I would like to share with you some updated information about how we mark learning and give feedback to your child.

At Ashford CE Primary, as stated in our vision statement, we are always looking for ways to support children to be the best that they can be and achieve their highest potential. In order to do this, we regularly review and develop our practice.

Why are we working on marking and feedback?

Educational research shows that excellent feedback on learning is one of the most effective ways to help children make progress. As a staff team we have been considering this research and looking at what we currently do to see how we can improve this.

What has changed?

We have increased the amount of verbal feedback and 'in the moment' informal assessments during lessons so that children receive immediate feedback on their learning. They can then work on next steps with adult guidance. Evidence shows that this immediate feedback has the greatest impact on children's progress. This may mean that you notice less written teacher comments on your child's work. I would like to reassure you that the teacher has still looked at, checked and assessed your child's learning.

In order to support your child's continued learning progress, teachers are using these 'in the moment' assessments to adjust planning so lessons cover next steps in learning and any common mistakes that need correcting.

At the start of many lessons there will be a short session where children work on feedback points from the previous learning either individually, in groups or as a whole class.

What have the children told us about marking and feedback?

We have carried out activities where children have told us their thoughts about marking. They shared that they find it easier to understand next steps when these are given verbally rather than in writing. They also said that they sometimes find it difficult to understand lots of written comments from teachers. The children have a good understanding of other marking strategies that we use such as highlighting, correcting spellings and codes to show that they have met the learning objective. These will all be continuing.

How can I find out more about marking and feedback?

Please do talk to your child's class teacher if you have any questions. It would also be useful to ask your child how they get feedback from their teacher and what they find most helpful about this.

We are working on a review of our marking and feedback policy and we will let you know when this is available to you on the school website.

Yours sincerely

Mrs L Bailey
Headteacher