Feedback for Growth: Guiding Students Towards Improvement

Empower student learning with timely, specific, and actionable feedback that builds confidence and fosters growth.

What is Feedback for Growth?

Feedback for growth is a powerful tool that provides students with timely, specific, and actionable insights to foster confidence, accountability, and continuous learning. At Tier 1, it builds a culture of growth by reinforcing effort and celebrating progress across the classroom. For Tier 2, feedback becomes more intentional and targeted, addressing specific areas of need for students requiring extra support. At Tier 3, it takes on a deeply individualized approach, offering encouragement and clear steps to help students overcome persistent challenges and achieve their goals.

Why Use It?

Timely & Specific: Accelerates learning with clear, actionable guidance.

Encourages Growth Mindset: Empowers students to see mistakes as opportunities.

Reduces Repeated Mistakes: Addresses issues constructively to prevent recurrence.

Builds Trust & Rapport: Shows genuine investment in student success.

Cultivates Collaboration: Fosters a shared environment focused on continuous progress.

The Research Says:

- » **Hattie's Visible Learning:** Feedback has an effect size of 0.70, accelerating student learning and reducing repetitive errors.
- » Formative feedback improves motivation and performance by making learning goals transparent and attainable.

Steps for Delivering Effective Feedback

1. Focus on the Task, Not the Person:

» Provide feedback on specific actions or outcomes rather than personal attributes.

» Example: "Your thesis is clear, but your evidence needs more examples to support your argument."

2. Use Feedback Loops:

» Encourage students to reflect and act on feedback.

» Example: After giving feedback, ask, "What's your next step to improve this?"

3. Embed Feedback into Learning:

» Offer feedback during activities to guide improvement in real-time.

» Example: Provide tips as students draft essays or collaborate on group projects.

4. Leverage Peer Feedback:

» Teach students how to give and receive constructive peer feedback.

» Example: Use sentence starters like, "One thing I noticed was…" or "A suggestion I have is…"

5. Celebrate Progress:

» Highlight incremental improvements to keep students motivated.

» Example: "Your transitions are much smoother in this draft compared to your last one."

Signs of Effective Feedback

» Students act on feedback to make meaningful improvements.

» Feedback conversations are collaborative, with students actively participating.

» The classroom culture reflects a growth mindset, with students embracing challenges.

» Progress is evident in student work and behavior over time.

Questions for Reflection

» How can you ensure your feedback is specific and actionable?

» What strategies can you use to involve students in the feedback process?

» How can you celebrate progress while encouraging further growth?

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