



GUISELEY
SCHOOL

A THINKING SCHOOL

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Dear Parent/Carer

As we start the new academic year, I am writing to outline some of the changes we have made to our marking and feedback procedures here at Guiseley School. As a part of this we have used the latest educational research to design our new marking and feedback systems. This research has been shown to be more effective in ensuring students respond to feedback.

The principle changes you will notice will be:

- Student exercise books will have less teacher traditional red pen marking and written comments.
- Teachers will mark, in depth, key timetabled pieces of work which demonstrate the key skills and/or knowledge for that sequence of teaching. This marking will take place typically three times per term. Some departments choose to conduct these assessments in assessment books, which will be available for review and discussion at parents' evenings.
- Teachers will be using marking codes and will teach feedback lessons in which students will be guided to correct their own mistakes. Students will be given DIRT (Dedicated Improvement and Reflection Time) within lessons to allow time for focused improvement to their work.
- Students will be improving their work in green pen, during feedback lessons. This is very important. This structure will encourage our students to develop a more responsible and conscientious attitude to their work. A heavy reliance on teacher traditional red pen marking does not promote this.
- You should expect to see more green pen improvement work in your child's books, which is a healthy sign that students are improving their work and responding successfully to their teacher's feedback.

Our teachers have received recent training on these new procedures and we will continue to evaluate the impact of our marking and feedback strategies on student progress. Shortly, there will be detailed descriptions which outline how this will look in each subject area on our website, should you wish further clarification.

Yours sincerely

Kirsty Cook
Assistant Headteacher
Teaching and Learning