

# FIVE TIPS for Effective feedback

## What is feedback?

Feedback provides a learner with information about how they are progressing towards a certain goal, outcome or set of outcomes.

### What might feedback look like in a mathematics lesson?

For feedback to be effective it should be:



### Feedback should be timely, actionable, and ongoing

To be most effective, feedback must be given when students are engaged in the learning process and have an opportunity to immediately use it to make changes. It is important feedback is manageable and provided 'just in time' for the student to progress in their learning journey.

I noticed you are using centicubes as a unit to describe volume. I see that you are counting each cube to work out the volume.  
Can you make a different rectangular prism that has the same volume?

### Feedback should link back to learning intention and success criteria

Students are more likely to accept and value teacher feedback if they can see its relevance to the learning intention and success criteria that have already been discussed and unpacked.

I'm just checking in to see how you are going with identifying features on a map. I see you can read a map and use grid references.  
I noticed some of your grid references on the map you drew might need checking.

### Feedback should guide the learner

Feedback should help the learner answer these questions: 'Where am I headed? How am I doing? and Where do I go next?' Feedback need not 'rescue' the learner from their productive struggle but rather provide guidance on how to reflect on where they are and how to proceed.

Can you show me how you measured the length of that book?

Your two reasons describing gaps and overlaps explain why you might get different results when you measure with paper clips.

Next, I want you to measure the length of the classroom using your footsteps and make sure you have no gaps or overlaps.

### Feedback should come from multiple sources

Feedback does not always have to come from the teacher. Feedback between peers can be very effective in helping students clarify their thinking and reflect on their work. Self-reflection is also a powerful feedback tool.

I learned that making models of large numbers with MAB blocks helps us when adding two numbers together.

### Feedback should engage and motivate students with their work

For feedback to be effective, teachers must actively interact with students at various stages throughout a lesson. Feedback should be framed to encourage and support further effort.