



Feedback

Feedback is one of the most powerful influences on learning, but in too many classrooms it arrives too late, fades too quickly, or leaves students uncertain about what to do next.

Verbal feedback is often given 1:1 in class, but unless it is captured and revisited, most of it is forgotten within days. Written comments, meanwhile, can be slow to arrive, hard to interpret, or ignored altogether.

"Feedback is information that helps learners close the gap between their current performance and the desired goal." (Sadler, 1989)

Rationale for Overdale Junior School to use iPad implementation to support Feedback

1. iPads Help Us Give Feedback When It Matters Most

Traditional written feedback often arrives days after the learning has happened. By then, the moment to improve has passed. With iPads, teachers can:

- Give feedback instantly through voice notes, text, or annotations
- Capture verbal feedback in the moment so students can revisit it later
- Ensure guidance is received while the learning is still fresh

This aligns with research showing that **timely feedback accelerates progress** and helps students close gaps quickly.

2. iPads Make Feedback Clear, Human, and Easy to Understand

Written comments can sometimes be misinterpreted or overlooked. Voice feedback, on the other hand, preserves:

- Tone
- Clarity
- Personal connection

Students hear their teacher's encouragement and guidance in a familiar voice, making feedback more meaningful and easier to act on.

3. iPads Allow Students to Revisit Feedback Anytime

Research shows that verbal feedback given once is often forgotten within days. iPads solve this by allowing students to:

- Replay feedback as many times as they need
- Pause, reflect, and apply guidance at their own pace
- Use feedback during independent practice or at home

This strengthens memory and ensures feedback leads to real improvement.

4. iPads Support Two-Way Dialogue, Not One-Way Comments

Effective feedback is a conversation, not a monologue. With iPads, students can:

- Respond to teacher comments
- Ask questions
- Show how they've acted on feedback

This builds independence, ownership, and deeper understanding; these are the key principles of high-impact feedback.

5. iPads Make Feedback More Equitable

Every child deserves high-quality guidance, not just those who feel confident asking for help. iPads help us ensure:

- Every learner receives personal, accessible feedback
- Language barriers are reduced through transcripts and translation tools
- Parents can see feedback and support next steps at home

This strengthens the partnership between school and family.

6. iPads Save Teachers Time Without Reducing Quality

Voice and visual feedback are significantly faster than traditional marking. This means teachers can:

- Spend more time giving meaningful guidance
- Provide more frequent feedback
- Focus on what matters most; supporting learning

Efficiency leads to more feedback, not less.

Evidence & Principles



Feedback Improves Learning

High-quality feedback is one of the strongest drivers of progress. Written feedback can add four months of learning, while verbal feedback adds up to seven months (EEF, 2021).

John Hattie on Impact

John Hattie (2009) identifies feedback as one of the most powerful influences on achievement, but only when it is timely, specific, and actionable.

Closing the Gap

According to Sadler (1989), effective feedback provides information that helps learners close the gap between their current performance and the desired goal.

Retention Matters

Verbal comments given only once in class often fade from memory within days (Ebbinghaus, 1885). Recording and revisiting feedback, combined with retrieval practice, ensures students strengthen memory and can act on it when it matters most.

Digital Strategies

Fast & Personal

Teachers can give detailed, human feedback quickly through voice notes, text, or annotations. Tone and clarity are preserved, ensuring guidance is understood.

Dialogic, Not One-Way

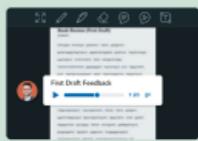
Students respond to comments, creating a feedback loop. Teachers gain insight into student thinking, while students take ownership of next steps.

Equity & Relationships

Feedback is consistent and accessible to all learners, building trust and stronger teacher-student connections. Parent access strengthens the support triangle around each child.

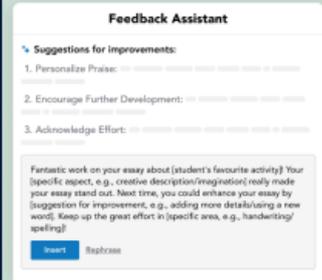
Task-Focused, Not Personal

Feedback is directed at the task, subject, or self-regulation strategies — never the individual. This makes it constructive, motivating, and aligned with EEF guidance.



How Showbie Makes Feedback Scalable and Sustainable

- Capture voice feedback so it's clear, personal, and replayable.
- Provide live, personal feedback in class while recording it at the same time, so pupils can revisit and act on it at home.
- Annotate directly on student work to highlight strengths and next steps.
- Enable two-way communication, creating continuous dialogue.
- Loop in parents to increase visibility and support at home.
- Save time: verbal and visual feedback is faster than traditional marking.
- Transcripts, translation, and AI tools enhance accessibility, ensuring every learner, regardless of language or ability, can benefit fully from teacher feedback.



1. Clarity - Feedback is actionable and transparent.

2. Efficiency - Teachers save time without reducing quality.

3. Equity - Every learner receives timely, personal guidance.