



Our New Feedback & Marking Policy – A Guide for Parents

At Bournville Village Primary School, we've updated the way we give feedback to children. We'd like to explain what's changed, and how this new approach will help your child.

Why have we changed it?

We've moved away from lots of written comments in books and towards feedback that happens **during the lesson**. This means children get help and advice in the moment - when it makes the most difference.

This approach helps us:

- Boost learning by addressing mistakes straight away
- Reduce teacher workload so more time goes into high-quality lesson planning
- Support children to take ownership of their learning
- Celebrate successes collaboratively

What does this look like in the classroom?

Here are the key features of our new approach:

- **Live Verbal Feedback:** Teachers give feedback as children work, so they can correct mistakes, celebrate and build on success, or take next steps straight away.
- **Marking Codes:** Instead of written comments, teachers use simple codes that tell children how their work was completed:
 - I – Independent work
 - S – Supported work
 - VF – Verbal feedback given
 - Sp – Spelling correction needed
 - ☺ – 1 token point for 'above and beyond' expectations in work.
- **Purple Pen Response:** When feedback is given, children respond to it using a purple pen. This shows their improvements and helps guide future teaching.
- **Whole Class Feedback:** During and after a lesson, teachers reflect on how the class did overall. This includes what went well, what needs reteaching, and who may need extra support next time. This is recorded on a whole class feedback sheet.





What are we aiming for?

We want feedback to be:

- **Timely** – in the moment, not days later
- **Purposeful** – helping each child move forward
- **Actionable** – something the child can act on straight away

How can parents help at home?

- Ask questions like:
 - *“Did you get a smiley face today? Why?”*
 - *“What feedback did your teacher give you?”*
 - *“How did you improve your work in class?”*
- Praise effort and improvement.
- Remind children that learning from mistakes is a great way to grow.

We're really excited about this approach. It's about working smarter, supporting children better, and helping them make great progress. Thank you for your continued support!

