



Secondary School Feedback and Marking Policy

Maadi British International School Mission Statement

'Learning for Life...'

Maadi British International School provides students with the knowledge, skills and understanding that will empower them to be well-rounded, successful members of an ever changing, culturally diverse world community.

At MBIS we are committed to providing a happy, positive learning environment where students, teenagers and adults are:

- Successful learners
- Confident, cooperative and responsible leaders
- Flexible and resilient
- Honest and trustworthy
- Responsible, caring global citizens

Rationale

Marking and verbal feedback are an integral part of the learning and assessment processes. The provision of effective marking and feedback to students enable them to assess their progress and understand how to improve.

Why do we mark?

- To guide, motivate and facilitate improvement
- To provide an opportunity to move learning on by:
- Addressing a misunderstanding
- Reinforcing a skill or key piece of information
- Extending a student's understanding or ability to do something

Effective marking should:

- 1. Be related to the explicit learning of the lesson (key question) and/or the student's personal targets.
- 2. Recognise, encourage, and reward the student's effort and progress.
- 3. Encourage the student to strive to improve.
- 4. Provide clear information to the student about his/her work.
- 5. Inform the teacher's learning-focused planning and target setting.
- 6. Provide opportunities for a student to assess their own work.
- 7. Be manageable for teacher

Procedures

- The key question and success criteria are displayed on the board and shared with the student, providing the focus of the feedback. Teacher feedback is focused on the key question.
- 2. Students write the date and key question in their book where possible, or if printed, it can be stuck in at the beginning of the lesson.
- 3. Oral feedback (indicated by **VF** for verbal feedback) and immediate 'impact marking' is consistently given during a task so that misconceptions are addressed as they arise
- Agreed symbols (see table below Secondary Marking Code Appendix 1) are used for both impact marking (at the point of learning) and secondary marking (teacher marking after the student has completed the task)
- 5. Students may mark their own learning or others' learning as this promotes progress, highlights one's own common errors and helps students understand 'what went well', and 'even better if'.
- 6. All teacher marking should be in green pen
- 7. The teacher should plan the activity for the next learning episode's reflection time (see below)
- 8. Students should reflect and feedback on the marking using a red pen.
- 9. Frequent deep marking is expected in all subjects at the Secondary level. This will vary in terms of time, due to the different number of lessons each subject has a week, but it is expected that at least one piece of work every two weeks is marked according to progression levels. All work, including peer, verbal or self-marking should be acknowledged (examples of appropriate written feedback are provided in Appendix 2)

At MBIS, we expect students to:

- Regularly read and respond to the comments made by adults in their books.
- Take pride and care in the presentation of their books reflecting the high standard that is expected.
- Never use graffiti, doodle or scribble on or in books.
- Take time to correct and finish off work where appropriate.
- Cross out mistakes using a pencil / pen and ruler.
- Use quality-writing equipment appropriate to the year group, consistently using either pen or pencil but not moving between them. Students should not use felt tip pens in workbooks.
- Use pencil for drawings or diagrams.
- Students should usually be expected to record the KQ and date at the beginning of each piece of recorded learning. Younger students and those with specific needs will be supported to establish these routines

Feedback and Marking Strategies at MBIS

Marking will take many forms, for which teachers will use their professional judgement. Deep marking should be in the form of What Went Well (WWW) and Even Better If (EBI). Teachers' comments should:

- Be specific, accurate and clear and focused on the key question
- Compare what the learner is doing correctly now with what mistakes have been made before
- Be focused on next steps. Teacher will provide specific guidance on how to improve
- We recognise that feedback and marking must be age appropriate.
- Targeted towards student progression levels to aid understanding.
- Correct simple mistakes while focusing on asking questions when misunderstandings are made as there is a distinct difference (EEF, 2016)
- Teachers will prepare students by discussing why feedback is important and how it can help lead to development and progress
- Teachers and students are encouraged to regularly reflect on the helpful questions about feedback and reflection, found in Appendix 3.
- Follow the five strategies of formative assessment (below)

Figure 2: The five key strategies of formative assessment (Wiliam, 2018)

	Where the learner is going	Where the learner is right now	How to get there	
Teacher		Eliciting evidence of learning.	Providing feedback that moves forward.	
Peer	Clarifying, sharing and understanding learning intentions and success criteria.	Activating learners as instructional resources for one another.		
Learner		Activating learners as owners of their own learning.		

Feedback does not always have to be written.

Types of feedback:

- Written feedback
- Verbal feedback range of questioning
- Informal feedback (checking in and discussing how students are progressing using grading/focusing on specific pieces of work)
- Formal feedback discussion in class / written feedback
- Peer feedback students making suggestions based on their peers' work (peer conferences -implemented through modelling and feedback)
- Self feedback (allowing time for self-reflection and written responses)

Reflection time

At MBIS we view reflection time as key to supporting progress. We expect students to review and reflect on learning.

In all subjects, teachers must plan for a formal reflection time (DIRT) at the beginning of each lesson or where appropriate. This time could be teacher-led, individual or peerfocused.

Monitoring of the Policy

Frequent quality assurance checks are made by SLT in Secondary to ensure that the marking policy is adhered to.

As well as this, the SLT monitor the effectiveness of the Feedback and Marking Policy each academic year.

Date of policy: September 2022

Reviewed: August 2024 Next Review: August 2025

This policy will be reviewed annually.

Appendix 1: Secondary Marking Code



Marking Code for Years 7-13

You may find some of these marks in your books. This is what they mean:

General

✓ Correct

X Look again. Can you see what is wrong?

C This needs correcting, can you try it again?

* Addition to text. You can add text at the end of your work using this symbol

? Not clear

Sometimes your teacher will draw a circle around something in your work. This means that you need to look at it carefully to see how you can improve it. They might put one of the letters above in the margin to give you a hint about what may be wrong.



Check this part e.g. ?



The task

Your teacher might write these letters in your book to show who you completed your task with, to comment on what went well, and to give suggestions for improvement:

You completed the work with some help from a teacher.

G You worked with a group to complete this work.

You completed this work independently.

WWW What went well...

EBI Even better if...

For written work or English lessons:

P is your punotuation correct? Write in the margin.

W is this the right word, can you think of a better one?

8p Can you check the spelling of this word? Write in the margin.

II Do you need a new paragraph?

A Have you missed a word?

ROS 1. Run-on-sentence. You need to divide them or insert a conjunction!

Appendix 2: Examples of written feedback

Questions linked to Bloom's Taxonomy:

•	How would you generalize?
•	How would you express?
•	What can you infer from?
•	What did you observe?
•	How would you demonstrate?
•	How would you present?
•	How would you change?
•	How would you modify?
•	How can you sort the parts?
•	What can you infer?
•	What ideas validate?
•	How would you explain?
•	What criteria would you use to assess?
•	What data were used to evaluate?
•	How could you verify?
•	What information would you use to prioritize?
•	What alternative would you suggest for?
•	What changes would you make to revise?
•	How would you generate a plan to?
•	What could you invent ?

General questions:

- Can you re-write paragraph two with more detail and description? Use your plan to help you.
- You wrote a good introductory paragraph to your newspaper report. Can you think of a different headline?
- What was your objective for this writing? Highlight your most effective words/sentence How quickly

•	What is the most interesting fact that you have learned from this research? What					
	would you like to find out next about?					
•	How did you know that?					
•	Why do you think?					
•	What could you do to be sure that your results would					
	always be the same?					
•	A great conclusion! What do you think makes it so good?					
•	Which is your favourite sentence? Why?					
•	Have you used any imaginative vocabulary? Write the words here.					
•	Can you make up your own example of?					
•	What is the most interesting fact that you have learned from					
	this research? What would you like to find out next about?					
•	What could you do differently next time to help you achieve					
	your target?					
•	Can you solve these?					
•	Here's the bonus question					
Stua	lent Self-Evaluation Prompts					
	evaluation is rooted in good practice. To encourage students to evaluate their					
learr	ning they may need prompts. For example:					
•	I have learned to					
•	I found out that					
•	I have got better atbecause I can now					
•	Myis improving because					
•	I enjoyed this work because					

•	My work is good becausebut I could make it even better by
•	I'm proud of this work because
•	I get mixed up when I try toI need help with this.
•	I found this hard because I don't know how to
•	I needed to useto help me.
•	I found this work hard. It would help me if

CRITICAL THINKING SKILLS

1 Knowledge Identification and recall of information	define fill in the blank list identify Who What Where When	?	name recall spell How Describe What is	state tell underline ?
2 Comprehension Organization and selection of facts and ideas	convert describe explain Re-tell in you What is the main idea of _	interpret paraphrase put in order r own words. ?	restate retell in your own words rewrite What differences exist be Can you write a brief outi	translate tween?
3 Application	apply compute conclude construct	demonstrate determine draw find out	give an example illustrate make operate	show solve state a rule or principle use
Use of facts, rules, and principles	How is an example How is related to Why is significant?	Could this have happened	ow of another instance where? s have happened in?	
4 Analysis Separating a whole into component parts	analyze categorize classify compare What are the parts or feat Classify accordir Outline/diagram/web/map	contrast debate deduct determine the factors ures of? g to	diagram differentiate dissect distinguish How does compare/ What evidence can you p	examine infer specify contrast with? resent for?
5 Synthesis Combining ideas to form a	change combine compose construct create design What would you predict/in	find an unusual way formulate generate invent originate plan	predict pretend produce rearrange reconstruct reorganize What solutions would you	revise suggest suppose visualize write
new whole	What would you predict/infer from? What ideas can you add to? How would you create/design a new?		What might happen if you combined with?	
6 Evaluation Developing opinions, judgements, or decisions	appraise choose compare conclude Do you agree that What do you think about What is most important?	decide defend evaluate give your opinion ? Explain. _?	judge justify prioritize rank Prioritize according How would you decide at What criteria would you u	out?

Appendix 3: Helpful everyday questions

Helpful everyday questions (From Shirley Clarke, 1998)

For Teachers:

- Do I vary my marking style?
- Do I over-use the same comment? E.g. 'use capital letters' from September to March.
- Do I model expectations?
- Do I use positive statements?
- Do I indicate future needs?
- Do I set targets and help children to know what they need to do next?
- Do I encourage pupils to self-assess their work?
- Are their planned opportunities for peer-assessment?
- Do I involve children, parents/carers and peers in the marking process?

For children:

- Do you know your next steps / targets?
- Why do your teachers mark your work?
- What sort of things make the teacher think your work is good?
- How do you know if your teacher thinks that your work could be improved?
- What sort of marking do you find helpful?