

# FEDBACK OPPORTUNITIES IN ONLINE LEARNING



## **CONTEXT**

The relational dimension of feedback, and maintaining connections with students, are more important than ever. There are many opportunities for students to engage with feedback to support their learning that maintain a sense of connection with educators and peers.

Some feedback opportunities in online learning involve providing information to students on an individual level; others involve providing grouplevel information with opportunities for individual dialogue or self-reflection. Each form of feedback has its own benefits, and ways of maximising its utility.

#### INDIVIDUAL FEEDBACK RECOMMENDATIONS TO FIND OUT MORE... BENEFITS Typed comments or • Less can be more Dirkx et al. (2019) Targeted feedback, annotations on submitted - Lots of annotations with annotations work can be overwhelming O'Donovan et al. (2019) showing location of for students. errors/where Winstone et al. (2016) improvements could be made. Phrase comments as Familiar format to questions that educators and develop selfstudents. regulation. Highlighted rubric linking Relatively quick to Bearman & Ajjawi Students can be performance to criteria produce. (2019)encouraged to look back through their Links directly to work to find assessment criteria, examples of why and giving transparency to how their work links the grading process to each level of the and resulting grade criteria. decision. Enhances the Audio, video, or screencast Use screencast to • Mahoney et al. (2019) personal nature of show how your feedback feedback processes. comments link to the Mayhew (2017) piece of work, and to Facial/voice cues can demonstrate Winstone & Carless enhance the corrections. (2019) Chapter 4 meaning of feedback comments. Recordings don't need to be polished -Available for students often students to view appreciate informality. multiple times. Virtual drop-in sessions Dialogic, two-way Ask students to direct Blair & McGinty interaction where the agenda by (2013)students can seek bringing specific clarification about • Nicol (2010) questions about their feedback comments. work, to encourage feedback-seeking. Provides a personal connection. A similar approach can be done at cohort level - see section on feedback webinars below. Stimulated self-reflection Winstone & Carless **Encourage students** • Students can be on individual performance to use this activity to (2019) Chapter 7 provided with simple connect feedback on information information the current task to representing their previous tasks, as a performance, way of visualising followed by a series progress and set of questions that help targets for future them generate improvement. feedback for themselves. GROUP FEEDBACK

#### RECOMMENDATIONS **BENEFITS** Share feedback on Record the webinar so **Feedback Webinar** things that were done that students in other well/could be time zones can view improved at a group asynchronously, and all level to the whole students can revisit and review. cohort at once. Questions can also be Students can post questions to which the collated in advance educator can respond and grouped according in real time. to common themes.

# TO FIND OUT MORE...

YouTube video on

### feedback webinars A discussion forum could also be used to provide an asynchronous alternative.

**Video Summary** 



audio summary of things done well/ things that could be improved, at a group level. Available for students

Create a short video or

- to view multiple times and at a time suiting them.
- Screencast tools can be used to demonstrate solutions to common errors, to to demonstrate particular processes/skills.
- Mayhew (2017)

• Mahoney et al. (2019)

- Winstone & Carless
- (Chapter 4)

#### Stimulated self-reflection on group performance information



- Educators can provide a group-level summary of things done well/could be improved, followed by guidance to generate self-feedback (see the **DEFT Toolkit**, page 55)
- Encourage students to use this activity to connect feedback on the current task to previous tasks, as a way of visualising progress and setting targets for future improvement.
- (2016)
- Weston-Green & Wallace (2016)

Winstone & Nash

## LINKS & REFERENCES

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