Michael Barbera
Year 12 student
Marist College Ashgrove

My favourite subjects would have to be the maths subjects, Maths B and C.

Evan Ciccone
Year 12 student
Marist College Ashgrove

I just like all the complex maths. It is just really interesting to learn about a lot of abstract mathematical concepts like differentiation, exponentials and things like that.

Michael Barbera

We’ve learnt about derivatives and anti-derivatives — seem to be the fundamental aspects of Maths B and it’s coming into Maths C as well.

Sharon Hogan
School Support Officer
(Teaching Quality)
Independent Schools
Queensland

Feedback enhances — improves — learning. And quality feedback actually has the catalytic, almost, property to move students’ learning forward.

Michael Barbera

For assessment, assignments and exams, we get our marks back and will have where we went wrong. If we do get anything wrong, They will go through that with us; they’ll go through the whole paper with all of us.

Fergus Geary
Year 12 student
Marist College Ashgrove

If I haven’t learnt something through having come into a lesson, look at something on [the] whiteboard, then I can come in and have it explained one-on-one, which just for me, personally, works a lot better.

Evan Ciccone

Some of the ways I got feedback from my teachers is some of the stuff they wrote on the test papers, little things I needed to change. And, I also went to go see them after and that was really a lot of help. They told me what I was doing well, what I needed to improve, ways to more clearly state my ideas.

Sharon Hogan

The relationship between students and teachers is pivotal to feedback. Students are reliant on teachers to be the translators of tasks. So what that means is that students rely on teachers to share with them what the success criteria actually are.
Michael Barbera
With the task specifically, it is always good to read over it as many times as I can to fully understand what we are actually doing. Obviously that is the foundation of the task. Additionally, a kind of a sheet we have is the criteria sheet.

Paddy Podbury
The criteria sheet will probably be pretty self-explanatory, so the teacher won’t necessarily have to go through it with me. It’s when we are dealing with really complex situations where the teacher will have to go: ‘Okay, this is what the criteria sheet wants you to do.’

Xanthe Keneally
The criteria sheet for assessment I feel is very valuable because it is what the teachers use to mark you. And so, it is very good to use as a checklist. So, you can work out what you’ve done and what you need to do to improve your mark.

Paddy Podbury
The teacher helps me with my assessment by just explaining the question, and just saying what some of the terms mean and what the question is really asking me to do. But, the teacher really doesn’t go into too much detail. Obviously they don’t want to do the assignment for me. They want me to do it myself.

Sharon Hogan
So what we need is ongoing feedback and continual informal feedback that is happening as students are engaging in a task so that students have time to action the feedback, to calibrate the feedback cognitively, and to think about the process steps that they might go through.

Xanthe Keneally
I definitely prefer feedback given to me in hard copy just because then I can continuously refer back to it and see what I have done wrong and how I can improve on this to make it the best I possibly can.

Evan Ciccone
Some of it was on the paper, just the stuff they had written down — just little things here and there. I actually went to the teachers after that and they explained what I should be doing, what I needed to do, what I was doing well.

Sharon Hogan
If you are giving summative feedback at the end, there is not a lot students can immediately do with that feedback until they return to perhaps that assessment task again.

Paddy Podbury
The teacher very briefly refers to our Year 11 assignments. They use it more as examples to say this assignment will be like the one you did in Year 11 where you did this.

Xanthe Keneally
I find that the teachers often go through with you generally what is required of you to get an A standard for your subject either in an exam or an assignment.

Fergus Geary
I’ll go back and look at past papers or just school-based assignments that our teacher has sort of pulled out. And from that, I can sort of look at it and go through, and that almost helps me put the pieces
Sharon Hogan

Effective feedback actually provides feedback to teachers that can be used to help shape their teaching. I think this is something that we often overlook, is that we need to be finding opportunities as educators to seek meaningful feedback from students so that we can check that they understand the material, check that they understand the task, and so that we then can adjust our teaching or modify what we are doing so that all students in the class can engage.