



If you want to find out more about AFL, visit these web sites.

[www.qca.org.uk](http://www.qca.org.uk)

[www.standards.dfes.gov.uk](http://www.standards.dfes.gov.uk)

[www.redbridge.gov.uk/rnlc](http://www.redbridge.gov.uk/rnlc)

[www.bgfl.org/services/assess/a4learn.htm](http://www.bgfl.org/services/assess/a4learn.htm)

[www.literacytrust.org.uk/Database/assessment.html](http://www.literacytrust.org.uk/Database/assessment.html)

[www.eriding.net/assessment/assessment\\_for\\_learning.shtml](http://www.eriding.net/assessment/assessment_for_learning.shtml)

[www.teachernet.org.uk](http://www.teachernet.org.uk)

## What your children say about AFL

"If you feel you are not good enough, you know what to work on to improve"

"Traffic lights and success criteria helps us understand our work"

"Having a voice in the classroom, helps teachers to help us learn"

"Helps you improve your learning and helps the teacher know the level of understanding"

"It helps you improve on your mistakes"

"Helps you be aware of what you have to do and sets goals"

"Learning in the way you want to be taught"

Quotes taken from London Borough of Redbridge primary and secondary pupils at the Annual AFL Student Conference, March 2007

## AFL : CPCS

*Achieve*  
*Improve*  
*Reflect*  
*Succeed*  
*Understand*  
*Aspire*

*and*  
**LEARN!**

## Sharing Objectives and Success Criteria

Sharing objectives is about talking to students about what they are going to learn in a lesson. By the end of the lesson, the students should be able to make a judgement on their learning.

Teachers will use the objective to assess students' understanding. You may find your child has the learning objectives written in their exercise books.

Success Criteria is about telling the students what they need to do to succeed in a task. This enables them to know what they need to include in a piece of work and move forward with their learning.

Your child will be made more aware of how to improve their work by using the success criteria or using model answers as examples to improve.

### What you can do to help at home:

- Ask your child 'What have you learned in school today?' Ask them for specific examples and to show you in their books.
- Ask your child to explain the success criteria for a homework task, for example, you could ask: 'What do you need to do to make this a good piece of work?'

## Questioning in the classroom

The techniques that can be used in the classroom to assess understanding are:

- **Thinking Time**

Students are given time to think before they answer, rather than having to give an immediate response,.

- **Paired Talk**

Students are given the opportunity to discuss the answer with their partner before they respond. This increases confidence and allows students access to other points of view.

- **No Hands Up**

Students may be asked not to raise their hands, giving opportunities for all students to contribute.

- **50/50, Ask A Friend, or Ask The Class**

Students who are struggling to answer, may be given options that they can choose from or can ask other members of the class for support.

### What you can do to help at home:

- If you are supporting your child's learning, rather than giving answers, try techniques such as 50/50 and discuss answers with them.

## Feedback Written and Oral

Feedback is a very effective method to allow students opportunities to see how well they have done and are targets on what they can do to improve their work.

### Feedback can be in two main forms:

- **Oral:** Comments are given to students during lessons from either the teacher or from other students.
- **Written:** Comments and targets will be written throughout their work in order to praise good work and identify how they can improve their work.



### What you can do to help at home:

- Find out from your child what their targets are and discuss how they can achieve them. Always start with subjects they enjoy or do well in.
- Look for the positive and offer praise.
- Ask them what they find difficult and what they can do about it? E. g. ask for help, revision classes, asking a friend.

## Peer and Self-Assessment

This is rather different to what may have happened when you were at school. Students from time to time mark and their classmates work and are given the opportunity to feedback improvements.

Students are also given opportunities to mark their own work.

Students will be able to use success criteria to mark work and use both written and verbal feedback to their classmates.

*"Having your peers assess you helps, because you know they will be honest"*

*"Discussing work with my friends makes me feel more comfortable"*

Self assessment can use traffic lights, which is a visual aid to identify what they do and do not understand.

### What can you do to help at home

- Try to respond positively to what helps them to learn and encourage them to think about.
- Discuss their homework before they hand it in to their teachers.