Good assessment and feedback: first principles

Lisa Gray, Senior consultant – learning and teaching, (HE) Jisc

Gill Ferrell, Consultant

Sarah Knight, Head of learning and teaching transformation (HE), Jisc
Jisc assessment and feedback programme

- **2011-2014:** 3 year programme exploring technology-enhanced assessment and feedback
- **2012:** Baseline review of the institutional landscape
- **2013:** Case studies, videos and 4 themed briefings
- **2014:** EMA landscape review & co-design project
- **2015:** Transforming assessment and feedback guide
- **2016-19:**
  - EMA in higher education: processes and systems guide
  - How to enhance student learning, progression and employability with e-portfolios guide
  - For further education (FE) – assessment for learning benchmarking tool and enhancing assessment guide
Programme resources

Encourage interaction and dialogue

Technology

Blogging tool with beautiful, customizable templates and...
Jisc’s work on future of assessment

Feb 2020

May 2020

May 2021
Focus of our 2021 review

Questions

• What are the key challenges currently?
• Do the underlying principles need updating?
• Is our lifecycle model still valid?
• Identifying recent examples of good practice
• Identifying examples of innovation
• What will be the key drivers/disruptors/innovations going forward

Expected outcomes

• Recommendations for Jisc
• Guidance materials
• Webinars
• This event
Rethinking assessment: a principled approach

- Importance of defining the *purpose* of assessment and feedback
- Articulate that underpinning vision before embarking on change
- Principles are a good way to articulate and operationalise this
  - Provide a synthesis of the research
  - Action oriented

https://www.jisc.ac.uk/guides/changing-assessment-and-feedback-practice
REAP principles

Good assessment and feedback should: support the development of learner self regulation

• Facilitate the development of reflection and self-assessment in learning
• Deliver high quality feedback to students: that enables them to self-correct
• Encourage peer and student-teacher dialogue around learning
• Encourage positive motivational beliefs & self esteem through assessment
• Provide opportunities to act on feedback
• Provide information to teachers that can be used to help shape their teaching (making learning visible)

Nicol and Macfarlane-Dick (2006)
Why revisit principles?

- Pedagogy is constantly evolving
- Some good practice hasn’t changed but we understand more about *why* and *how* it achieves better results
- Our view of what makes inclusive and accessible curriculum has altered
- Concern is growing around how assessment impacts mental health and well-being
- Assessing more authentic tasks is a priority in many disciplines
Direction of travel …

The diagram shows how our emphasis is changing …

• Assessment **of** learning - the institutional quality-assured processes that lead to a qualification

• Assessment **for** learning – learning design emphasising formative opportunities that feed forward to future improvement

• Assessment **as** learning – the lived experience of students and staff when active learners contribute to decision-making and are able to monitor and regulate their own learning
### Our draft principles

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Principle</th>
<th>How we achieve this</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Helps learners understand what good looks like</td>
<td>by engaging them with the requirements and performance criteria for each task</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supports the personalised needs of learners</td>
<td>by being accessible, inclusive and compassionate</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fosters active learning</td>
<td>by recognising that engagement with learning resources, peers and tutors can all offer opportunities for formative development</td>
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<tr>
<td>Develops autonomous learners</td>
<td>by encouraging self-generated feedback, self-regulation, reflection, dialogue and peer review</td>
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<td>Manages staff and learner workload effectively</td>
<td>by having the right assessment, at the right time, supported by efficient business processes</td>
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<td>Fosters a motivated learning community</td>
<td>by supporting staff to critique and develop their own practice and involving students in decision-making</td>
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<tr>
<td>Promotes learner employability</td>
<td>by assessing authentic tasks and promoting ethical conduct</td>
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Contribute your thoughts

Add your comments on the principles to feed into our panel discussion:
A&F Principles • IMS Europe (mural.co)

UK participants - add your thoughts to our survey:
https://jisc.onlinesurveys.ac.uk/af-survey-he-2021
Get in touch …

Lisa Gray
lisa.gray@jisc.ac.uk

Sarah Knight
sarah.knight@jisc.ac.uk

Gill Ferrell
gill@aspire-edu.org

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