



The Power of Feedback

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Abstract

The SAIL (Student Assessment to Improve Learning) project is a Comenius project with partners from UK, Denmark, Italy, The Czech republic, Spain and Norway which aims to improve the quality of teaching and learning by developing, providing and disseminating materials, new pedagogical methodologies and strategies of AFL (Assessment for learning) into everyday classroom practice in primary and secondary school.

SAIL focuses on assessment as an important part of the learning process. In the start of the project partners have produced a state-of-the-art report on AFL in their own countries as the baseline for the project's work. All partners then have conducted case studies of classroom AFL innovation within local networks of teachers, school leaders, educational advisers and policy makers to establish their training and support needs.

Assessment for learning (AFL) focuses on the gap between where a learner is in his/her learning and where they need to be – the desired goal. The gap can be narrowed by sharing criteria with learners, effective questioning and feedback.

Research has shown that learners learn best when:

They understand clearly what they are trying to learn, and what is expected of them

They are given feedback about the quality of their work and what they can do to make it better

They are given advice on how to go about making improvements

They are fully involved in deciding what needs to be done next, and who can give them help if they need it. (Black & Wiliam)

The presentation – if accepted – will focus on the power of feedback and how schools can improve students' learning by building a climate for formative assessment.