

Mentor Handout 7.2

Mistakes as part of learning

[This will be a concept cartoon with teachers and speech bubbles or similar]

Example:

- “This activity is going to be **challenging**. Remember, if you find something too easy, you’re not **learning**. We know that to learn something, we must put **effort** in and think hard.”

Key words: Challenging, learning, effort

These words convey the focus on learning and how important this is. Pupils are reminded that they will probably find the task hard but they should expect this and see it as a challenge. They are reminded of the learning process and encouraged to think hard as this is when learning occurs.

- “I want to say well done to you all for trying so hard during that task. It was impressive to see you persevering.”
- “I’m going to send a postcard home, I am really impressed that you took this work that had mistakes, and you have improved it considerably.”
- A teacher that marks a piece of work with an effort score rather than an attainment grade.
- A teacher models how to solve a problem by narrating their thought process. They use a common misconception to demonstrate how they adapted their thinking and cleared up the misconception.
- When a student gives a wrong answer, the teacher says “Ahh good, you’ve forgotten...that’s an important part of the learning process and helps us to learn better in the long run.”