

The Fifth Foundation: Review and Reinforcement

Conducting highly effective reviews of student progress is not a simple matter. It requires high levels of organisation and commitment from students, teachers, as well as school and college leaders. Each school or college will have its own monitoring systems. At Alps, we believe that for monitoring to be truly effective, it should include the following Five Foundations of Effective Monitoring. Our fifth foundation is Review and Reinforcement.

Reinforcement is all about:

- Restating and reinvigorating the key elements of the process
- Sharing experiences across the institution
- Making time for teachers to discuss ideas and practices away from the confines of their own teaching teams
- Sharing good practice and new ideas between departments
- Evaluating the experience for the students

With all school and college processes, there is a challenge to keep things fresh. We must also remember that while long serving teachers have been through progress review a number of times, students are experiencing monitoring for the first time.

Key questions to consider:

- What has been done this year to re-energise the process?
- How is it ensured that progress review does not become stale?
- How is practice from individual subject teams shared?
- Is the review process evaluated regularly?
- Are student views sought when reviewing the effectiveness of the system?
- Are staff views sought when reviewing the effectiveness of the system?
- Are the views of students who are not happy with monitoring explored to develop an understanding of why they do not find the process useful?
- Is practice across departments systematically shared, regarding monitoring, teaching, and supporting learners?

This blog is one of five parts on the Foundations of Effective Monitoring. We hope you've found these five foundations helpful to your own monitoring planning. If you have any questions or need further advice on monitoring, please don't hesitate to contact our Education Team on 01484 887600 or email: info@alps-va.co.uk