

GREEN PEN

stand
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teaching

OUTSTANDING LESSON PLANNING





WELCOME

As professional educators we often reflect on our performance, but how often do you allow your students to do this?

High quality reflection is an essential skill that your students need to master in order to develop independence and become life long learners. Teaching them the ability to recognise when they are using these skills and why is an integral step towards success. Green pen, as the name suggests in the simple process of introducing reflective opportunities recorded in green biro. Combined with Connect (literacy) and Feeding Forward (assessment), green pen will develop your students' independence and ability to self learn through reflection.



WHAT IS GREEN PEN?

Every task a student undertakes will be completed to a certain standard. The ability to recognise what standard and how this can be further improved upon is what green pen is designed to do.

Green pen tasks are reflective activities designed to encourage students to think about the strengths to a piece of work or skill they have used and how this can be improved upon.

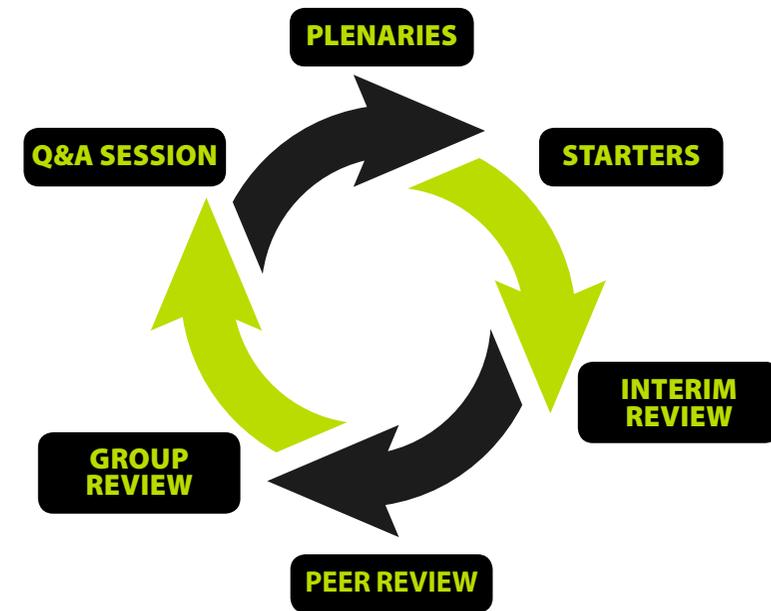
To support students understanding of the use of this skill, students are required to undertake the activities using a green pen. This allows them to signpost when they have been reflective and also to refer back to during a future task to inform their learning.



WHEN TO USE GREEN PEN

The use of green pen exercises can be interwoven into a lesson to inform progress as and when necessary.

When using green pen activities it is important that they have a purpose and that they will inform future learning. Considering this, plenaries are commonly the most likely points to use green pen but there are a range of other areas that this type of activity can be used within.





GREEN PEN AND CONNECT

Green pen activities have a heavy literacy focus as we are asking students to write informed feedback on their own performance.

As such it is essential that we remember to give students the literacy support they required to ensure high quality, specific comments to support their future learning.

In order to support this, Standout Teaching's Connect strategy is ideal. Combine your green pen activity with support in relation to-

- **Keywords** to use within the feedback they produce
- **Sentence starters** to help them begin and guide them towards specific comments
- **Connectives** to help students to explain their thoughts and decisions
- **Support questions** to help them tailor their answers towards specific points

The Connect Mat is a great way to pull these techniques together into one resource to support students green pen activities.



GREEN PEN AND FEEDING FORWARD

Green pen is only one half of using great feedback to its full. Feedback is only useful if you have the opportunity to act upon it, you need to feed forward!

When planning to allow students to use green pen, always consider when they will use the feedback that they produce.

This could be-

- An activity to further improve the piece of work
- A future activity which uses the same skills or knowledge from the original
- When green pen has been used midway through a piece of work, use the feedback to improve the work as it develops further
- Redrafting of the work
- Revision activities

These are just some suggestions as to how the feedback produced by students can have an impact on future learning, what is important is that they are given the opportunity within their lessons!

An abstract 3D graphic on the left side of the slide, featuring several thick, glossy green rings that are intertwined and looped together. The rings have a smooth, reflective surface and are set against a light green background. The overall composition is dynamic and modern.

SUMMARY

To create truly independent learners, we need to teach students to be reflective and be able to develop their own learning.

Green Pen is a simple, clear strategy that support students in being able to identify strengths and areas for development. It also brings together other teaching and learning strategies into an approach that is supportive and effective-

- *Green pen to support reflection*
- *Connect to support specific feedback comments*
- *Feeding forward to ensure feedback is used*

For further information and resources to support the delivery of the Green Pen strategy please visit standoutteaching.co.uk



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