
How do teachers monitor and evaluate strategies using pupil voice?

Research taster

When teachers start to find out what their pupils think about teaching and learning, they are often surprised by how positive, deep and insightful the vast majority of pupils' ideas are. Many of the pupils' ideas reflect activities they have experienced in the past. If you are prepared to believe that your pupils' contributions could be useful, you can use their ideas to plan more motivating lessons and use their skills to overcome problems – such as when difficulties arise in using ICT resources.

Your evidence

You can get a very good indication of the ideas pupils have about teaching and learning by holding a discussion on what makes a 'good teacher'. You might like to try this with small groups which report back later to the whole class. You could ask your pupils what suggestions they have for a trainee on how to become a good teacher.

Moving forward

Once you have an insight into pupils' ideas you will need to evaluate them and consider how to build on them. You'll also need to let them know about how you have weighed up their responses, and show how you've used their new ideas or explain your reasoning where this isn't possible.

Find out more

You can find out more about pupil voice at:

The project website: <http://www.consultingpupils.co.uk/>

A TLRP
Research Brief on pupil voice at:

http://www.tlrp.org/pub/documents/no5_ruddock.pdf

A GTC
Research of the Month summary on pupil voice at:

<http://www.gtce.org.uk/policyandresearch/research/ROMtopics/pupilvoice/>