|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **REPORT WRITING** | | |
| **People with a growth mindset** believe that their most basic abilities can be developed through dedication and hard work. They understand that effort is the key to success. This view creates a love of learning and a resilience that is essential for great achievement. | | |
| **LANGUAGE** | | |
| ***Useful Phrases*** | ***Words/Phrases to Avoid*** | |
| ‘Shows resilience when faced with problems’ | ‘Finds tasks easy’ | |
| ‘Overcomes or takes on challenges’ | ‘Talented’ | |
| ‘Learns from mistakes’ | ‘…learned that so quickly! You’re so smart’ | |
| 'Focuses on the problems to be tackled’ | ‘Achieves levels quickly’ | |
| ‘Accepts/acts upon constructive criticism’ | ‘Natural talent’ | |
| ‘Finds solutions to solving problems’ | ‘Gifted’ | |
| ‘Understands that effort is the key to success’ | ‘Natural ability’ | |
| ‘Shows persistence’ | ‘Intelligent’ | |
| ‘Admits and corrects mistakes’ | ‘Things come naturally’ | |
| ‘Is capable of structuring long tasks’ | ‘Smart’ | |
| ‘Demonstrates a desire to learn and embrace new challenges’ | ‘Clever’ | |
| ‘Keeps going when things get difficult’ | ‘Innate talent’ | |
| ‘Tries all kinds of different strategies to solve problems’ | ‘Is a very clever pupil’ | |
| ‘Is keen to respond to tasks’ | ‘Shows real flair’ | |
| ‘Readily engages with the challenges of …’ | ‘A brilliant student’ | |
| ‘Acts upon feedback readily…’ | **In short, linking comments explicitly to intelligence may be counter-productive in the long term.** | |
| ‘Shows a willingness to take risks with…’ |
| ‘Makes an effective contribution to…’ |
| ‘Is highly committed to improving own learning’ |
| **DIRECT REPLACEMENTS** | | |
| ‘A talented student’  ‘Learns quickly’  ‘Finds learning easy’  ‘Did really well’  ‘Has an innate talent’  ‘Is a brilliant student’ | | ‘Has a keen interest in the subject’  ‘Finds solutions to solving problems and is keen to respond to tasks’  ‘Puts effort in so that he/she readily acquires the requisite learning’  ‘Made good progress because s/he worked very hard’  ‘Has put considerable effort into demonstrating what about the subject whilst being eager to discover more’  ‘Has demonstrated real skill in the application of learning’  *or*  ‘Has grasped some complex ideas and is able to articulate them effectively’ |
| ***Remember Dweck:*** *Give praise for taking initiative, seeing a difficult task through, for struggling and learning something new, for being undaunted by a setback, or for being open to and acting on criticism.* | | |
| **Key words:** Effort, perseverance, resilience, tenacity, independent, enquiring, hardworking, conscientious, autonomy. | | |

Copyright © 2016 Winning Scotland Foundation

**Report writing language**