

Writing Feedback

TERM 1 2025 | 18th April | HOLIDAY WRITING

Section 1:

#1 Strengths:

- You've created a clear subject line that captures attention with emotive symbols and language.
- The opening effectively establishes the playground problem with informal language appropriate for fellow students.

Weakness: Register inconsistency → Your tone fluctuates between very informal ("duff") and surprisingly formal phrasings ("sustained minor injuries"). This creates confusion about who you're addressing. For example, phrases like "unamusing problem" and "nourished with new gleaming equipment" sound too formal for student communication.

Hey everyone! Have you seen how our playground's basically falling to bits? It's gone from awesome to awful, and I reckon we need to sort it out ASAP!

#2 Strengths:

- You effectively include specific examples of safety incidents which strengthens your argument.
- Your three-part structure (Safety, Wellbeing, Educational Impact) organizes your concerns logically.

Weakness: Evidence presentation → The detailed statistics and formal research citation feel misplaced in a student-to-student email. Your reference to "The Australian department of physical health" with precise statistics (34%) sounds like content copied from your formal letter rather than casual communication with peers.

Did you know kids at schools with decent playgrounds actually do better in class? Our teachers are always telling us to run around at break time to help us focus - but how can we when everything's broken?

#3 Strengths:

- Your numbered proposal points clearly outline what actions you want taken.

- You acknowledge potential obstacles (budget constraints) which shows thoughtfulness.

Weakness: Closing formality → Your sign-off "Yours sincerely, Anonymous Year 6 student" is inappropriately formal for an email to fellow students. The entire closing paragraph uses language more suited for the principal letter with phrases like "I would greatly appreciate the opportunity" and "at your earliest convenience."

Let me know if you're in! We could meet up at lunch on Friday to chat about our ideas and make a plan. The more of us who get involved, the more likely we'll get our playground fixed! Catch you later, [Your name]

Your piece shows promising persuasive elements but requires better audience awareness. The informal email to students needs a consistently casual, energetic tone throughout. You've included several descriptive phrases like "grotesque metal scraps" and "gleaming equipment" which paint a vivid picture. However, your formal evidence and statistical information would work better in your principal letter. Try using more relatable examples and peer-focused language when writing to fellow students. Also, consider adding a clear call to action - what exactly do you want students to do after reading your email? Sign something? Attend a meeting? Join a committee? Make this explicit so readers know how to help. Additionally, your email contains several emotional appeals that could be strengthened with personal connections rather than formal arguments.

Overall Score: 38/50

Section 2:

Subject: 🚨 Our Playground is Falling Apart - We must fix it !! 🚨

To: studentcouncil@northshore_primary.edu

#1 Hey everyone!

Have you noticed the appalling state of our playground? It's gone from sublime to ~~duff~~ [rubbish], I think it's time we ~~do~~ [did] something about this unamusing problem.

Many concerned students yearn for a safe place to play. Don't you also yearn for the once vibrant playground that has now turned into a pit of grotesque metal scraps, metal hinges, screws and memories. Those memories deserve to be nourished with new gleaming equipment and those very memories will be joined with many more. It is our playground that played with us, it is our playground that has nurtured us, it is our playground that deserves care. There are also many concerns for the students. There have been multiple incidents regarding our metal dump. Here are some incidents related to our concerns. Student Safety: Last week alone, two Year 4 students sustained minor injuries from the protruding metal edges of the damaged slide. The uneven concrete has caused multiple tripping incidents. Mental Wellbeing: Students now view break times with dread rather than anticipation. The playground should be a place of joy and development, not caution and avoidance. Educational Impact: Physical activity is crucial for cognitive development. The uninviting, barren play space discourages movement, potentially affecting classroom focus and academic performance.

#2 Research by the Australian department of physical health indicates that schools with well-maintained play facilities see 34% higher rates of physical activity among students and report fewer behavioural issues in the classroom. Our school deserves nothing less than a safe, engaging environment that supports both physical and intellectual development.

I respectfully propose:

1. An immediate safety assessment of all playground equipment.
2. Repairs to the most hazardous areas within the next two weeks.
3. Development of a comprehensive renovation plan by term's end.
4. A meeting with student representatives to gather input on improvements. I understand that budget constraints are a reality; however, the potential cost of student injury – both human and financial – far outweighs the investment needed for these improvements. Our kind local businesses and parents have already expressed willingness to assist with fundraising initiatives. Thank you for your consideration of this urgent matter. I would greatly appreciate the opportunity to discuss this further at your earliest convenience.

#3 Yours sincerely,

Anonymous Year 6 student

