Strategies and tools that could be used to engage students in peer assessment

A range of strategies and tools are available for peer assessment. Teachers should select and adapt these to suit the needs of their students at key assessment points.

| Traffic lights | Green – shows the work addresses the success criteria  
| | Amber – indicates room for improvement  
| | Red – suggests that the success criteria is not evident  
| Feedback bun | Top – a positive aspect of the work  
| | Filling – a section of the work that could be improved  
| | Bottom – a positive aspect of the work  
| Weather gauge | Warm – signals positives feedback in relation to success criteria  
| | Cold – indicates areas for improvement  
| | Hints – provides advice for ‘raising the temperature’ to meet success criteria  
| Stars and stairs | Stars – identify where the work meets the success criteria  
| | Stairs – suggests steps for making improvements to the work  
| PMI charts | Plus – meets criteria  
| | Minus – criterion not evident  
| | Interesting – something to improve  
| SWOT analysis | Strengths – areas that show evidence of success  
| | Weaknesses – sections that need work  
| | Opportunities – aspects that could be further developed  
| | Threats – obstacles to improvement  
| Ladder of feedback | Step 1 – involves reading/listening/asking clarifying questions  
| | Step 2 – identifies the strengths  
| | Step 3 – identifies the areas for improvement  
| | Step 4 – suggests ways to improve  
| Checklists/rubrics | Provides a list of ‘look fors’ (an outline of success criteria) and can include descriptions of levels of performance to guide and focus assessment  
| Thinking hats | Explores a piece of work from different perspectives in order to focus feedback: white focuses on the facts; green concentrates on creativity; yellow emphasises the positives; red comments on the reaction; blue examines the process behind the product and; black highlights any concerns  
| Peer discussion and conferencing | Paired discussions and Peer-to-peer conferences enable students to give feedback on a task to a peer and receive a response to the comments.  

© State of New South Wales, Department of Education and Communities, 2015
References
(Ontario Ministry of Education, 2010), (Department of Education & Training Victoria), (Rolheiser & Ross, 2001)

Acknowledgements
Open clip art from https://openclipart.org

Traffic Light (RYG), by algotruneman. Created 2013-09-04
Hamburger, by agomjo. Created 2014-03-10
Thermometer, by pnx. Created 2014-10-01
Ladder (flat) by portablejim. Created 2008-08-16
To-Do List, by sheikh_tuhin. Created 2009-11-04
Six Hats 1, by kattekrab. Created 2006-12-26
People talking, bubbles, by palomaironique. Created 2011-12-19