



Critical Reflection

Section 7 - Exceeding – Critical Reflection

Assess your practice first.

Read the below description and evaluate it in relation to your practices.

Exceeding – Critical reflections. We consider our practice from a social justice & equity perspective to ensure the wellbeing and comfort of every child. We provide clothing to children and families in need. To ensure we meet the wellbeing of families we provide food in one-off circumstances or longer if required. We assist with collection and care for children whose parents are receiving treatment. We plan activities & experiences around additional needs rather than adjusting activities.

If you are doing similar practices to the example, use the below question to help you write your '**exceeding practice for critical reflection**' description so you can add it to your QIP or SAT (NSW only).

For Exceeding the QIP and Self-Assessment Tool (SAT)
Critical Reflection <i>Please explain how all educators consider and discuss their practice from a social justice/ equity perspective to ensure the wellbeing and comfort of every child.</i>

If you and your educators need to learn how to achieve exceeding – critical reflection, proceed here and do below.

The following section outlines the steps to ensure you are exceeding in Critical Reflection. If you have already successfully completed the previous section demonstrating how you are exceeding in Critical Reflection, you do not need to complete this section.

Look at the words in detail to identify what is exceeding.

*Please explain how all educators consider and **discuss their practice from a social justice/ equity perspective** to ensure the **wellbeing and comfort of every child**.*

...discuss their practice from a social justice/ equity perspective.

Social justice in early childhood refers to promoting fairness, inclusivity, and equal opportunities for all children, regardless of their background, culture, ethnicity, abilities, or socioeconomic status. It recognises that each child deserves respect, dignity, and the right to thrive in a supportive and nurturing environment. Social justice aims to address and rectify societal inequities by challenging biases, stereotypes, and discrimination. It involves creating inclusive classrooms, celebrating diversity, and fostering positive relationships among children, families, and educators.

Educators should engage in self-reflection, educate themselves on social justice issues, and create a culturally responsive curriculum. They should recognise and challenge inequities, foster inclusive environments, and collaborate with families and communities. Professional collaboration and continuous reflection are important for growth. By taking these steps, educators can create an inclusive and equitable learning environment that values diversity and ensures equal opportunities for all children.

Now that we have examined the words in detail, we can start exploring what these concepts could look like for you. It is important to ensure that we make it very clear how these concepts have **created change** in your service.

Week 17, 5 to 9 June 2023 – 2.1.1 Wellbeing and comfort

Please explain how all educators consider and **discuss their practice from a social justice/ equity perspective** to ensure the **wellbeing and comfort of every child.**

1. **Equity mindset:** Educators should cultivate an equity mindset by recognising and challenging their own biases, assumptions, and prejudices. They should reflect on how their actions, decisions, and interactions may impact children differently based on factors such as race, ethnicity, culture, ability, or socioeconomic status.
2. **Inclusive Environment:** Creating an inclusive environment is vital. Educators can design classrooms that celebrate diversity, respect individual identities, and create a sense of belonging for all children. This includes incorporating materials, resources, and books that represent diverse cultures, abilities, and backgrounds.
3. **Equal Opportunities:** Educators should strive to provide equal opportunities for every child. This involves ensuring access to resources, materials, and learning experiences regardless of a child's background. They can consider the unique needs and strengths of each child and provide tailored support to ensure all children have an equitable chance to succeed.
4. **Culturally Responsive Practice:** Adopting culturally responsive practices helps educators honour and value the diverse cultural backgrounds of children and their families. Educators can learn about and integrate cultural traditions, languages, and experiences into the curriculum, fostering a sense of pride and understanding.
5. **Critical Reflection and Dialogue:** Educators should engage in ongoing critical reflection and dialogue, both individually and collaboratively. They can question existing practices, policies, and biases to identify areas where social justice and equity can be further promoted. Sharing experiences, insights, and strategies with colleagues can contribute to a collective commitment to social justice.
6. **Collaboration with Families:** Building strong partnerships with families is essential. Educators can actively involve families in decision-making processes, seeking their input and valuing their perspectives. They should engage in open and

respectful communication, involving families in discussions about their child's progress, learning goals, and any concerns or needs that may arise.

7. **Advocate for Change:** Educators can use their voice to advocate for systemic change and promote policies that support social justice and equity in early childhood education. This can involve participating in advocacy initiatives, joining professional networks, or engaging with community organisations that focus on social justice issues.

Your example. Select a point from above and break it down into the subsections.

Please explain how all educators consider and **discuss their practice from a social justice/ equity perspective** (Remember reading these descriptions becomes a part of the reflection).

To ensure the **wellbeing and comfort of every child.** (Describe the changes you made after the reflection).

Week 17, 5 to 9 June 2023 – 2.1.1 Wellbeing and comfort