



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. After reflecting critically on the way our Philosophy aligned with service practices, priorities, and purpose, we changed it. We reordered our core values that sit below the Philosophy and make up the actions of our Philosophy. The change was made to acknowledge that the current group of educators are different to those at the service when the Philosophy was first written. Our priorities are different now because of the new personnel.

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 - Please explain how and why the Philosophy changed after you or other staff/managers reflected critically on the way it aligned with Service practices, priorities and purpose.

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 and why the Philosophy changed after you or other staff/managers reflected critically on the way it aligned with Service practices, priorities and purpose.

The first section of the question focuses on the process and specific actions taken to change the service's philosophy. It seeks to understand the steps taken after individuals, including the person being asked and other staff/managers, critically reflected on how the existing philosophy aligned with the service's practices, priorities, and purpose. In this part of the question, you are asked to explain the **actual changes that occurred** in the service's philosophy. It wants to know what **specific adjustments or modifications were made** after careful reflection on how well the existing philosophy aligned with the service's everyday practices, priorities, and overall purpose.

Section 2: Reasons for the Philosophy Change

This section of the question delves into the reasons or motivations behind the decision to change the service's philosophy. It seeks to understand why critical reflection led to the conclusion that changes were necessary to better align the philosophy with the service's practices, priorities, and purpose.

In this part of the question, you are asked to clarify the reasons that **drove the decision to change** the service's philosophy. It wants to know the **underlying factors** or **insights gained** during the critical reflection process that made it evident that adjustments were needed to better fit the service's daily practices, priorities, and overall purpose.

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.

Please explain how and why the Philosophy changed after you or other staff/managers reflected critically on the way it aligned with Service practices, priorities and purpose.

Incorporating Inclusive Language: During the critical reflection process, educators noticed that the service's philosophy did not fully reflect its commitment to inclusion and diversity. As a result, the philosophy was revised to incorporate more inclusive language, highlighting the centre's dedication to providing an environment where every child and family feels welcome and valued.

Strengthening Play-Based Learning: Through critical reflection, educators realised that the current philosophy did not emphasise play-based learning adequately. The philosophy was updated to place a stronger emphasis on the value of play as a central aspect of the educational program.

Aligning with Sustainable Practices: During the reflection, it became evident that the existing philosophy did not explicitly address sustainability and environmental responsibility, despite being a priority for the service. As a result, the philosophy was revised to include a clear commitment to fostering sustainable practices and environmental consciousness in daily operations and learning experiences.

Why the Philosophy Changed:

The critical reflection process led to the recognition of certain shortcomings or misalignments between the existing philosophy and the service's practices, priorities, and purpose. These insights drove the decision to make necessary changes to enhance the service's effectiveness and relevance.

Evolving Educational Approach: The critical reflection revealed that the current philosophy did not fully support the innovative educational approach the service wanted to adopt. The decision to change the philosophy was motivated by the need to create a more forward-thinking framework that aligned with the service's vision of providing progressive and child-centred education.

Responding to Family Feedback: Through reflection and feedback from families, it became clear that certain

aspects of the existing philosophy did not resonate well with them. To strengthen family engagement and satisfaction, the philosophy was updated based on the insights gained from this feedback, aligning it more closely with the needs and expectations of the families served.

Adapting to New Research Findings: During critical reflection, educators came across new research findings and best practices in early childhood education in the EYLF/MTOP version 2. These findings indicated that certain elements of the current philosophy needed revision to keep up with the latest approaches. The philosophy was updated to incorporate this.

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

Please explain how and why the Philosophy changed after you or other staff/managers reflected critically...
(Remember reading these descriptions becomes a part of the reflection).

... aligned with Service practices, priorities and purpose.
(Describe the changes you made after the reflection).