For **Exceeding** the Self-Assessment Tool (SAT) NSW ONLY

Below are exceeding examples for your Self-Assessment Tool to submit onto the portal – NSW Services only.

# 7.1.1 Service Philosophy and purpose

A statement of Philosophy guides all aspects of the service’s operations.

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| Please explain how you **regularly** contribute to **reviews** of the Philosophy and what some of those contributions have been. |
| **Embedded practice -** We actively participate in the regular review of our Philosophy, which includes annual reviews, assessing incidents and complaints, and examining other matters. Following comprehensive research into the dynamics of babies in groups, we've recently updated our Philosophy. These updates include incorporating a shared-agency approach and Group Theory. We've also recognised the importance of a work group mentality, leading us to reorganise the order of our core values to better reflect these insights. |
| 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. |
| **Critical Reflection -**After critical reflection on how our Philosophy aligns with our service's practices, priorities, and purpose, we've made many changes. We rearranged the core values underpinning our Philosophy, which essentially shape the actions derived from it. This change was important to recognise that the group of educators we have now is different from those who were at the service when the Philosophy was initially written. Our priorities have evolved, due to the influence of our new team members. |
| Please give an example of how you’ve encouraged families or community members to provide feedback and contribute to reviews of the Philosophy. |
| **Families and community -**We actively encourage families to give feedback and play a part in reviewing our Philosophy. We've shared examples of the feedback we've received and how it has led to changes in our Philosophy. We use our Philosophy as a tool to guide parents, especially when their values and expectations differ from ours. This assists them in making a more informed decision about whether our centre is the right fit for them. This process begins right from the initial tours of our centre, where we proudly showcase our approach to risky, yet manageable play. |
| Please discuss how the service Philosophy underpins your daily practice. |
| **Embedded practice -** Our Philosophy underpins daily practice. We continually improve practices to meet the needs of children, develop their skills and engage their interests and strengths. We support additional needs, promote risky play, and develop trusting relationships with children that support and guide teaching practices. We establish partnerships with families for planning and assessment, critical reflection, and intentional teaching practices and we develop connections with the community for children. |
| Please discuss how the service Philosophy reflects the Service’s unique environment, culture or community. |
| **Families and community -** Our Philosophy reflects our unique environment, culture and community. For example, we focus on community involvement and form bonds with our neighbours in the business park to build strong learning relationships. Dubbo is becoming more diverse with the arrival of migrants and we celebrate that as well as our strong Indigenous background. |