

7.1.1

Service philosophy and purpose

A statement of philosophy guides all aspects of the service's operations.



Week 1
29.1.2024

Section 6. Exceeding: Critical Reflection (Educational Leader)
Educational Leader to manage whole service critical reflection.

Assess your practice first.

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

Exceeding – Critical reflections. After critical reflection on how our Philosophy aligns with our service's practices, priorities, and purpose, we've made some 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.

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.

Integrating Respectful and Inclusive Language:

During our critical reflection, we realised our Philosophy didn't fully mirror our commitment to respect and inclusivity. We've since updated it to use language that better represents our dedication to creating a welcoming and respectful environment for every child and family.

Prioritising Nature and Outdoor Learning: The reflection process led us to acknowledge that our Philosophy didn't focus enough on the importance of nature and outdoor learning. We've amended it to highlight the significance of outdoor experiences in children's learning and development.

Embracing Cultural Diversity: The review highlighted that our existing Philosophy needed a stronger focus on cultural diversity and awareness. We've adjusted it to underline our commitment to celebrating and integrating diverse cultural perspectives into our daily practices and learning experiences.

Reasons for Changing the Philosophy: The critical reflection process identified gaps and misalignments between our Philosophy and the service's current practices and goals. These insights prompted us to update our Philosophy to better align with our evolving practices and objectives.

Adopting a Holistic Education Approach:

Reflection revealed that our Philosophy didn't fully support the holistic educational approach we aim for. Changing the Philosophy was driven by the need to establish a more comprehensive framework that aligns with our vision of providing an all-encompassing, child-centred education.

Incorporating Community Feedback: Feedback from our community made it clear that some

aspects of our Philosophy weren't resonating with them. To boost community engagement and satisfaction, we updated our Philosophy based on this feedback, ensuring it aligns more closely with the community's needs and expectations.

Updating with Current Educational Research:

Through critical reflection and reviewing new research in early childhood education, including insights from the latest EYLF/MTOP guidelines, we recognised the need to update our Philosophy. We've revised it to include these new research insights and best practices.

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).