

5 ways to support self-assessment

Self-assessment is important not only for continuous improvement in line with element 7.2.1, but also for general high quality practices and completing the Self-Assessment Tool.



Critical reflection

Providing targeted reflection prompts within the service to get everyone thinking about how you achieve a certain area, what examples there are of this, and how you could improve. There are so many different ways services approach critical reflection, just make sure there is evidence to support this.



Appraisals

The once a year appraisal is based on a model that works in office based jobs where there are KPIs and annual bonuses, but is not really aligned with ECE. Find a way that works for you to get feedback on educator's understanding and give feedback on their practices for individual self-assessment.



Research projects

Engaging in research projects is a great method to assess how what you are currently doing aligns with best practice and compliance, and identify ways to improve practices that align with your context, stakeholders and philosophy so that it is meaningful.



Goals

While setting goals is important for continuous improvement, assessing how these goals are progressing and what needs to happen to achieve them successfully requires self-assessment. These could be room goals, service goals, children's goals, appraisal goals etc.



Staff meeting

Having the whole team gathered together for a meeting is a perfect opportunity to engage in some self-assessment because you can bounce ideas off each other and challenge responses to get more meaningful discussions rather than just sharing ideas through a memo.