

Critical Reflection Prompt #106

What is the reason for you getting into early childhood? What ambitions and goals did you have when you started your life as an educator? Are you still on the same path or have your expectations and ambitions changed, or been changed, by your opportunities? Are you happy with your current practices or do changes need to be made to get back to your original goals?



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Critical Reflection Prompt #100

Critical reflection is more than just saying the first thing that comes to mind or quickly stating an answer and moving on with your life. Critical reflection is being willing to be challenged, sitting with an idea even though it makes you feel uncomfortable, being willing to learn about other ways and explore alternatives. How comfortable are you with being challenged for the sake of reflective practice?



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Critical Reflection Prompt #103

How do you give back to your community in ways that align with your philosophy and values? Do you participate in community events? Fundraise for community issues? Donate items to community causes? Represent the service at community events? Find ways to support local community groups and businesses? Buy locally? How does this maximise children's learning opportunities?



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Critical Reflection Prompt #105

Think about nappy change times within your service. How do you know that they are being completed in line with the correct procedure? Are there any cross contamination risks with your set up? How do educators support relationship building and value the 1 on 1 time that nappy changes provide? How do you give children agency over when (e.g. now or next) nappy changes occur and by whom?



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Critical Reflection Prompt #108

Think about how embedded your practices are. Are they visible in multiple aspects of the service? Are they known to all staff members? Are they discussed regularly within the service through reflections, meetings, documentation, newsletters etc.? Do you not only know what you do, but why you do it? Are elements of the NQS intertwined and viewed holistically or just tick a box for each element?



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Critical Reflection Prompt #102

Are you a role model for the expectations of the children inside your service? Do you always wear a hat outside, never sit on tables or stand on chairs, show respect to your peers, help pack away etc.? How can you expect children to trust and respect you if there is one set of rules for them and a different set for you? What is this teaching them about social justice and being part of a community?



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Critical Reflection Prompt #104

Think about how you maximise children's learning opportunities within the service. Are there ever times where children are sitting around waiting for something to happen? Are children ever picked up by an educator and then carried around while that educator does tasks or chats to another educator? How does this support children's learning? Could improvements be made in this area?



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Critical Reflection Prompt #107

Do you expect children to manage their emotions and respond rationally to frustrations and unexpected interruptions to their day? How well do you manage your own emotions? What tools and techniques have you learnt to help you process what is happening rationally and respond accordingly? How are children meant to know these tools and techniques if they are not taught to them?



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Critical Reflection Prompt #101

Think about the level of care and quality of education you provide the children in your service. Is this consistent across all children or does it vary based on your relationship with the child? How would you feel if you were a parent of the children in your service? Would you be happy with the level of care provided or would you expect better? Or would it depend on the child? How can this be improved?



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