

Critical Reflection Prompt #141

Think about the approach you have to giving families a voice within the service....

- Do you do it because you have to or because you value their input?
- Do families use the opportunities you provide them or do you clearly need to find better ways?
- Are your questions to families meaningful for them and invite useful feedback?
- Are you delegating your job to families or giving them a voice within the service?



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Critical Reflection Prompt #138

A lot of early childhood is unpredictable. You don't know what the day is going to look like, what mood the children will be in, what areas of the program they will engage with, what questions parents will ask etc. This allows us to be resilient and adaptive educators who can respond to any changes. Reflect on whether your mindset focuses on your resilience and flexibility or whether it focuses on what you wish was happening? What is the impact of your mindset?



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Critical Reflection Prompt #141

One of the expectations of the NQF is that theory guides practice within the service. Reflect on how this is achieved in your service.

- Which theories are chosen and why?
- How do you build educator's knowledge and understanding of theory?
- How do you demonstrate theory guides practice? Is this meaningful or a tick box approach?
- What evidence is there of educators building their knowledge of theories?



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Critical Reflection Prompt #143

When you think about transitions within the service how do you mark these in special ways with the children? This could include transitions into the service, through the rooms of the service, out of the service when moving on to school or elsewhere, and also transitions through the daily routine. What rituals do you have so children can feel valued participants of these transitions, not just moved around to meet the needs of the service?



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Critical Reflection Prompt #137

A strategic plan is an organisation road map to make sure that decisions made align with the direction you are aiming towards for a period of time, usually 5 years. Without a strategic plan organisations tend to zig zag with their decisions being reactive rather than proactive.

Do you have a strategic plan in your organisation? If so, how do you align decisions with it? If not, what is guiding your focus and priorities? Is this consistent?



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Critical Reflection Prompt #140

When you are interacting with the children for any purpose, what benchmark do you use to ensure that you are doing so in a respectful, positive and supportive way?

Do you ask yourself how you would like it if an adult interacted with you that way?

Do you seek feedback from others on how you interact with the children?

Do you actively reflect in interactions within the service?



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Critical Reflection Prompt #142

How do your procedures allow for individualised needs of children and staff? Are they flexible for different circumstances while still being clear on expectations? Are they written in different ways for different staff to easily follow them such as flow charts, photos, diagrams etc.? Do they accommodate for known behaviours of children so that they can be considered e.g. a child who is known to hide during an emergency evacuation?



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Critical Reflection Prompt #145

While most services refer to the approved learning frameworks in their documentation, reflect on how you support educators to build their knowledge and confidence around the learning framework. How do you make sure they understand all aspects of it?

How do you identify and address gaps in knowledge? How has the knowledge around the learning framework evolved since it was introduced?



Supports Element 1.1 in self assessment tool

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Critical Reflection Prompt #139

Do you believe that if one child has something, for example a fidget toy, every child deserves one?

How does your thinking around this support equity and fairness? How does the way you explain this to the children support their understanding of respect for diversity?

If you wear glasses to help you learn does that mean every child should wear glasses? Would this positively impact every child's learning? Are the glasses a tool to facilitate learning?



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