

Reflecting on the philosophy



Is your philosophy specific to your values?

Your philosophy should be specific to who you are as a service and what values and beliefs guide your practices. Having a service that just says a lot of early childhood language but is not specific to you means that it is less likely to guide your practices.



How is it embedded in service decisions?

If your philosophy is truly a representation of your values and beliefs then it will be visibly embedded in all aspects of the service, not just some nice sounding words on a wall. Reflecting on this can help make sure you have embedded these values across all areas.



How do families share feedback?

As your philosophy should be based on your values it is expected that your families can see consistency in the way you approach practices. Having families give feedback on the philosophy will allow you to reflect on whether this is being achieved in ways you think it is.



How do children share feedback?

Your children, in some instances, spend more time at the service than anyone else and therefore would be able to identify what they see as guiding the service. Discussing what they enjoy, feel, would change etc. can help get an understanding of how the philosophy looks for children.



How does it guide your practices?

There should be systems in place that support making decisions in line with the philosophy otherwise you can end up in a situation where your practices are not aligned with the philosophy and do not demonstrate it being embedded through all aspects of service operations.