



Families



Community
Links

Section 8 - Exceeding – Family and Community Links

Assess your practice first.

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

Exceeding – Family and Community Links. Educators support families to connect with other families or community services to help support their needs or those of their child. We conduct events such as play dates in parks where parents can meet each other. Educators are aware of local community services (parenting support, financial help), medical practitioners or ancillary medical professionals and can help families connect with these services.

If you are doing similar practices to the example, use the below question to help you write your ‘**exceeding practice for Family and Community Links**’ description so you can add it to your QIP or SAT (NSW only).

For Exceeding the QIP and Self-Assessment Tool (SAT)
Family and Community Links <i>Please explain how you and your team actively support families to connect with other families or community services to help support their family needs or those of their child.</i>

If you and your educators need to learn how to achieve exceeding – family and community links, proceed here and do below.

The following section outlines the steps to ensure you are exceeding in **Family and Community Links**. If you have already successfully completed the previous section demonstrating how you are exceeding in **Family and Community Links**, you do not need to complete this section.

Look at the words in detail to identify what is exceeding.

Please explain how you and your team actively support families to connect with other families or community services to help support their family needs or those of their child.

Actively support families would mean providing ongoing support and care in a reliable and predictable manner. But we need to consider the following point to make sense of this.

Connect with other families or community services can include educators can facilitate connections between families by organising regular family events and encouraging families to participate in them. These events can include family picnics, sports days, cultural celebrations, and community excursions, which create opportunities for families to build connections and relationships with each other. Educators provide information to families about community services, such as parenting groups or local playgroups, that can help support their child's learning and development.

Support their family needs or those of their child, educators could work collaboratively with families to create individualized care plans that meet the specific needs of their child, including any additional needs or requirements. This could involve seeking input from external specialists or services to provide the necessary support for the child and family. Educators could also offer flexible care arrangements to accommodate the family's work or other commitments and ensure that their child's care and education needs are still being met.

Week 10, 3 to 6 April 2023 – 6.1.1 Engagement with the service

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 three concepts have **created change** in your service.

Please explain how you and your team actively support families to connect with other families or community services to help support their family needs or those of their child.

For example:

- organising events such as play dates in parks, service barbecues, shopping trips

I and my team actively support families to connect with other families or community services to help support their family needs or those of their child. One way we do this is by organizing events such as play dates in parks, service barbecues, shopping trips, and other social events where families can come together and interact with each other in a relaxed and supportive environment. These events not only provide an opportunity for families to make new connections and friendships but also foster a sense of community and belonging. We also provide information about community services that may be of help to families and encourage them to access these services when needed. This includes referring families to relevant support services such as parenting groups, health clinics, and family support services. We work collaboratively with these services to ensure families receive the best support possible.

Your turn. Read the points below and select the ones you can either describe how you are doing it now, or how you could plan to do it.

Please explain how you and your team actively support families to connect with other families or community services to help support their family needs or those of their child.

For example:

- making themselves aware of information in the parent library and knowing the local community services (parenting support, financial help), medical practitioners or ancillary medical professionals available, and offering to help families to connect with the service.

Week 10, 3 to 6 April 2023 – 6.1.1 Engagement with the service

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Your example. Select a point from above and break it down into the three subsections.

Describe how *you and your team* actively support families ...

to connect with other families or community services

to help support their family needs or those of their child.