



## Assess your practice first.

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

### Exceeding – Critical reflections. Exploring new links/partnerships with community organisations:

When we identified that children were struggling with fine motor skills, we partnered with a local occupational therapist (OT) to develop a support plan. The OT visited the centre to demonstrate strategies for enhancing motor development. This partnership also strengthened our connection to local health services, allowing us to provide targeted support to other children with similar needs, enhancing their learning outcomes and well-being.

If you are doing similar practices to the example, use the below question to help you write your '**exceeding practice for critical reflection**' description so you can add it to your QIP or SAT (NSW only).

For **Exceeding** the QIP and Self-Assessment Tool (SAT)

**Critical Reflection** - Please give an example of a time you've identified a need and explored new links/partnerships with community organisations to strengthen outcomes.

**If you and your educators need to learn how to achieve exceeding – critical reflection, proceed here and do below.**

The following section outlines the steps to ensure you are exceeding in Critical Reflection. If you have already successfully completed the previous section demonstrating how you are exceeding in Critical Reflection, you do not need to complete this section.

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

Please give an example of a time you've identified a need and explored new links/partnerships with community organisations to strengthen outcomes.

Let's break down the above statement into two parts and provide simple descriptions to help you:

**Part 1:** "Please give an example of a time you've identified a need." This is asking for a situation where you noticed something was missing or needed improvement.

**Part 2:** "and explored new links/partnerships with community organisations to strengthen outcomes." *Simple Meaning:* This part asks if you took steps to find new friends or groups in the community to make things better.

**Example:** Let's say you noticed that some children in your community didn't have access to enough books to read at home, and you wanted to help them read more.

It is important to ensure that we make it **very clear how these above concepts have created change in your service.**

Please give an example of a time you've identified a need and explored new links/partnerships with community organisations to strengthen outcomes.

### Speech Therapy Support

When we identified that some children were having difficulties with language development, we partnered with a local speech therapist. The therapist worked with the children one-on-one and offered group sessions, supporting their communication skills. This partnership provided tailored support and strengthened outcomes in children's language development.

### **Cultural Cooking Classes**

After realising that our children were unfamiliar with different cultural foods, we established a partnership with a local multicultural cooking school. The school ran regular cooking workshops, where children could learn about and taste foods from different cultures, broadening their understanding of diversity and promoting inclusive practices in the centre.

### **Mental Health Resources**

Recognising that some children were experiencing anxiety and emotional regulation difficulties, we reached out to a local child psychologist. Through workshops with the children and staff, the psychologist offered strategies for managing emotions and stress, greatly improving the children's ability to self-regulate and fostering a calmer learning environment.

### **Physical Activity Partnership**

After observing a need for more structured physical activities, we partnered with a local sports organisation to run weekly sports and movement sessions. The collaboration provided professional coaching and helped improve children's gross motor skills, physical fitness, and overall well-being, ensuring that their physical development needs were met.

### **Dental Health Program**

When we noticed that several children were having dental health issues, we reached out to a local dental clinic. The clinic visited the centre, offering free dental checks and oral health education sessions. This partnership not only improved the children's dental health but also provided families with valuable information on oral hygiene practices.

### **Inclusion for Children with Additional Needs**

Identifying the need for additional support for children with sensory processing issues, we developed a partnership with an occupational therapist (OT). The OT worked with the children and provided strategies for the educators to implement daily. This partnership enhanced the children's ability to engage with their environment, improving their learning outcomes and inclusion in group activities.

### **Week 33, 21 to 25 October 2024 – 6.2.3 Community Engagement**

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Please give an example of a time you've identified a need..... (Remember reading these descriptions becomes a part of the reflection).

... and explored new links/partnerships with community organisations to strengthen outcomes. (Describe the changes you made after the reflection).