

Will your quality improvement plan actually improve quality?

New ACECQA research reveals exactly what it takes for children’s services to improve their overall quality at reassessment. Is your service doing what’s needed?

DO YOU HAVE AN EFFECTIVE QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PLAN (QIP) THAT

- includes specific, measurable, achievable, relevant and time-bound (SMART) goals? Yes No
- has been developed collaboratively – with team engagement and input from children and families? Yes No
- embeds diversity, culture and inclusion in all aspects of curriculum decision-making? Yes No
- uses examples of proactive change strategies and evidence of quality improvement? Yes No
- is kept up to date, with regular progress notes and periodic evaluations of progress towards priority goals? Yes No

DOES YOUR APPROVED PROVIDER

- recruit and retain qualified and skilled early childhood teachers and educators? Yes No
- provide access to professional learning opportunities? Yes No
- create a positive work environment? Yes No
- provide conditions and time to promote and share perspectives on professional practice? Yes No
- enable local-level decision-making on programs and practices so your service can meet the needs of your community? Yes No
- value and support the role of the educational leader, providing training, resources and time to ensure the role helps lead quality improvement? Yes No

DO TEACHERS AND EDUCATORS

- see quality improvement as a professional responsibility, with all team members accountable to each other? Yes No
- approach quality improvement as a team effort? Yes No
- take guidance and direction from the educational leader? Yes No
- demonstrate commitment to an embedded culture of shared learning, critical reflection and continuous quality improvement? Yes No

DOES YOUR SERVICE MEANINGFULLY ENGAGE WITH THE ASSESSMENT AND RATING PROCESS BY

- taking feedback provided in the assessment and rating report on board? Yes No
- sharing feedback with the team and using the report as a catalyst for practice change, training and/or greater organisational support? Yes No
- using the assessment and rating process to strengthen teamwork? Yes No
- establishing positive relationships with the regulatory authority to support two-way information sharing? Yes No

DOES YOUR SERVICE LEADER

...ensure the service philosophy is the foundation for quality improvement and

- is informed by theory and research? Yes No
- is used for critical reflection on practice? Yes No
- reflects your service and your community? Yes No

...create and maintain a supportive workplace by

- providing time for collaboration between teachers and educators on programs and practice? Yes No
- organising regular meetings between the educational leader, team and individual teachers and educators? Yes No
- providing access to quality professional development? Yes No
- mentoring the team through training? Yes No
- engaging with other professionals (e.g., inclusion professionals, leaders of other services)? Yes No

...support an effective educational leader who

- has extensive knowledge and understanding of curriculum and pedagogy? Yes No
- leads learning, collaborative critical reflection, teamwork and practice change? Yes No
- ensures learning is visible in service planning (e.g., Quality Improvement Plan) and practice? Yes No
- knows and works with individual teachers and educators to support professional growth and goals? Yes No

ANSWERED YES TO ANY OF THE ABOVE?

Make sure you note down what your service is already doing well under the strengths section for relevant quality areas in your QIP. This will highlight the practical steps your service is taking to drive continuous quality improvement and provide the best outcomes for children and their families.

ANSWERED NO TO ANY OF THE ABOVE?

Tailored professional development can turbocharge quality improvement at your service.

Popular topics include:

- **Quality improvement planning:** Creating a QIP that works for you
- **Team building:** Nurturing your dream team
- **The role of the educational leader:** Simple strategies to mentor and motivate educators
- **Assessment and rating preparation visit**

Browse the catalogue at bit.ly/PDforECEC



Access ACECQA's complete quality improvement research report at

www.acecqa.gov.au > Resources & research > Research & reports > Quality improvement research project

