

The **OSHC** Conference **2025**



Aisha Grewal & Bryony Catlin

Incorporating children's voices and values
in your Quality Improvement Planning



Supported by



Department
of Education



Acknowledgement of Country

Community Child Care Association (CCC) acknowledges Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the First Peoples of this nation and the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we work.

We recognise their continuing connection to culture, land, water and community. We pay our respects to Elders past and present. We acknowledge the strength of family connection and kinship within Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and their ongoing dedication to educating and caring for children. Sovereignty of these lands was never ceded.

We would like to thank Yorta Yorta and Gunnai artist Dixon Patten for creating this artwork which depicts CCC's cultural learning journey.



Bryony Catlin

She/Her

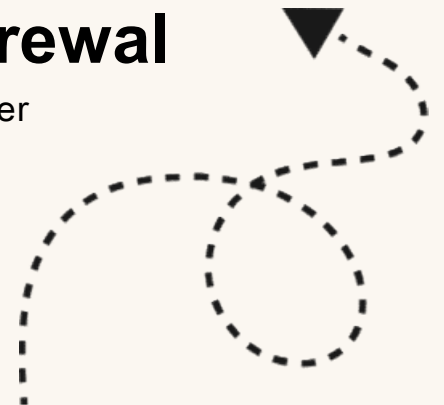


Aisha Grewal

She/Her

Who are we?

CCC Professional
Support Consultants





What are you going to get out of the session?

- Consider ways to authentically include children's voices, values and perspectives in your QIP.
- Discover methods to identify and understand children's values.
- Explore effective ways to hear and respond to children's voices in QIP processes.
- Find strategies to make QIP planning easier and more impactful at your service.



REFLECT



How do you include children's voices in your program?

What processes do we have for children to engage in quality improvement?

What are some of the barriers?

My Time, Our Place



FRAMEWORK FOR
SCHOOL AGE CARE IN AUSTRALIA
V2.0, 2022

What does My Time,
Our Place say?

“consider the voices of children and young people, their families and their communities in their decision-making and consider the consequences of their actions for children and young people’s experiences”

MTOP, 2022

QIP Need to Knows.....

- Rules


- Include your service philosophy
- Be readily available
- Updated at least every 12 months
- Identify areas of improvement

‘include an assessment of the programs and practices at the service against the National Quality Standard and National Regulations’ ACECQA, 2025






Process vs Product



Process of QIP

- The processes we have to improve the service
- How we gather thoughts, feedback, and ideas
- Our approach to improving overall quality



QIP Document

- What the actual plan looks like
 - How it is documented

what
children
's
values
are?





Deep Listening

'Very early in life, children demonstrate that they have a voice, but above all that, they know how to listen and want to be listened to'

(Rinaldi, C. 2005, p.49-51)

Ask yourself:

What am I seeing and noticing?

What motivates them? Why?

What messages are they telling me with their interests, actions, dispositions, and motives?

Am I listening?



CRITICAL REFLECTION


QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

What's important to our children and why?
What do they want to see, have, experience more of?
How do I know this?

What are our understandings of each child, their culture and context?

How do these understandings shape our work? What changes can be made to better reflect that?

Who is advantaged/included when we work in this way? Who is disadvantaged, excluded or silenced?



Including children's voices:

- Picture/drawing approach
- Wishing stone, Magic lamp
- Interview technique
- Games: Agree/disagree or like/dislike
- Mind maps, Visual Diary
- Letterbox
- Surveys, polls & voting
- Post-it Note approach
- Meetings/child advisory groups
- Asking children, community & families
- Vision board/wish lists, Graffiti Board
- Post-card technique
- Child-led audits
- Word clouds





Area's of Improvement

- Meals
- Aspects of the environment
- Equipment, materials & resources
- Games & play
- Staffing arrangements
- Wellbeing, play & leisure
- Routines & transitions
- Incursions, excursions, events, celebrations
- Issue, problem or concern



Make a plan

Write it down

Take ACTION!



A service that listens and includes the voices and values of children and young people is one that....

- Recognises that children have a voice and can actively participate in decision-making processes,
- Views children as active citizens and identifies opportunities to enhance programs by valuing their perspectives, opinions, and voices,
- Collaboratively designs programs and environments with children and young people, ensuring their ideas and preferences inform decisions related to activities, resources, rules, and the overall atmosphere of the space,





*'The secret to getting ahead
is getting started'*





QUESTIONS?



reception@cccinc.org.au

Please complete this quick and confidential evaluation.
Your individual answers will not be linked to your name or
service.
This survey will help CCC understand what worked and what
can be improved.

<http://bit.ly/CCCsurvey20>

Thank you



Community Child Care Association

PO Box 1730

Preston VIC 3072

www.cccinc.org.au

(03) 9486 3455

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