



*Self-reflection is one of the many avenues that you can use to foster your personal growth as a child care practitioner... thinking about your current practice and reflecting on whether there are things you would like to change.*

*Partners in Quality: Tools for Practitioners in Child Care Settings, Canadian Child Care Federation, 2000.*

Evaluate your practice using a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is the lowest and 5 is the highest.

1       2       3       4       5

- Genuine efforts are made by the program to understand the family’s needs, cultural and/or religious practices and preferences related to child-rearing and its goals for the child before the child enters the program and throughout the child’s stay in it.

1       2       3       4       5
- Before the child enters the program, the program and the family discuss the program’s philosophy, policies and procedures and the child’s daily routines.

1       2       3       4       5
- The practitioner and family work together to develop an approach to assist the child to settle into the program and to establish initial developmental goals.

1       2       3       4       5
- Routines, food and activities are modified, to the extent possible, to reflect family practices and respect family preferences.

1       2       3       4       5

- Families are encouraged to visit the program and participate in its activities any time their child is present.  
 1       2       3       4       5
  
- The program actively and continuously engages the family in information-sharing about the child's daily experiences and regularly involves the family in goal-setting and planning for the child.  
 1       2       3       4       5
  
- Families are encouraged and supported to share any concerns they have about the program or their child's progress.  
 1       2       3       4       5
  
- The program responds promptly when parents express concerns.  
 1       2       3       4       5
  
- When families have concerns or when differences of opinion occur between the program and the family, there is a respectful exploration of the issues and consideration of possible solutions with the family.  
 1       2       3       4       5
  
- The program uses a variety of strategies to provide families with information about and opportunities to input into significant proposed changes or decisions that may impact on them or their children and ensures that families are informed when there are changes in policies or procedures that affect them or their child.  
 1       2       3       4       5
  
- The program uses a variety of strategies to encourage and enable on-going family involvement in setting program policies.  
 1       2       3       4       5
  
- The program ensures that parents who are elected to the board of directors are given an orientation to its role and responsibilities and specific training related to board membership.  
 1       2       3       4       5

**For more information and links to resources on quality early learning and child care, visit [www.qualitychildcarecanada.ca](http://www.qualitychildcarecanada.ca)**