

KEY STEPS

THE SELF-STUDY PROCESS FOR NC CHILD CARE PROGRAMS



1

Self-assessment:

Use one of the following tools to gather information about your classroom practices:

- Thinking More Worksheet (focused on Language or Activities)
- Self-assessment tool (based on completed Outreach Assessment)



Completion of one of these forms is required for this step



2

Reflection:

Think critically about what is working well and areas where growth can occur, identifying barriers or challenges that may be preventing quality practices.



This step should involve taking a closer look at routines, environments, and interactions.



3

Planning:

Choose specific areas to focus on, explore strategies to make meaningful changes, and identify the steps and supports needed to move forward.



Set clear, focused goals- using SMART goals is one helpful approach and be sure to communicate with team members so everyone is on the same page.



4

Action:

Put the plan into action. Make updates to the environment, try new teaching practices, or increase opportunities for meaningful interactions.



Document what you did, what worked well, and what you'd like to try differently next time.



Wrapping it all up



Verification process: keep records of what was reviewed, what changes were made, and how the classroom team participated. Gather all self-assessment tools used and make copies of them for your DCDEE consultant. Complete the verification form that includes documentation about each classrooms focused on their strengths, areas identified for growth, goals, and action outcomes.