



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT Capability Self Assessment Template

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Introduction

Capabilities describe the potential to demonstrate superior performance. An individual's capability can be influenced by their personal attributes, the management environment and learning and development undertaken. Applying capabilities in combination is necessary for superior performance however the environment or situational contingencies can also impact on a person's ability to excel.

One of the strategies suggested for improving capabilities and providing you with the opportunity to engage in your own professional development, is through the use of a self assessment template. This will allow you to participate in an individual self assessment of your capabilities for your own personal information or alternatively where you can share this information with your manager who can then provide feedback. By completing the template, you are able to identify areas for improvement and then link them to potential learning and development activities. In addition to this, it also allows for an opportunity for you and your manager to identify strengths and also to address potential career development both long term and short term that you may be interested in.

🌟 Participation in the process is voluntary

Staff members and managers are advised that engaging in the capability self assessment is voluntary for all involved. Staff are also welcome to participate in this process for their own personal information and are not obliged to share this information with their supervisors should they not wish to do so.

🌟 Confidentiality

All individual assessments should be treated confidentially and should solely be used to assist in the staff member's professional development.

Instructions

- Select the Self Assessment Template appropriate for you, eg. staff member; frontline manager/supervisor, middle manager or senior manager (the capabilities increase in sophistication according to position level)
- Complete the template
- You can choose to discuss with your Manager

A Guide to Understanding Your Results

Upon completion of your self assessment, if you find you have answered 1 = Never, 2 = Almost Never or 3 = Not often, under a particular section, this may be an area that you may choose to develop and discuss.

If you find that you have answered 5 = often, 6 = Almost Always or 7 = Always under a particular area, this can be interpreted as a strength area which you may also choose to discuss.

R.E.A.P.S – Principles of Effective Feedback

To be effective, feedback needs to be:

- **Respectful** – acknowledging the perspective and contribution of the other. It needs to be focussed upon behaviour rather than the person.
- **Evidence Based** – focussed on facts, be specific and not general, base on specific observations and descriptions of what occurred rather than inferences or judgements. Concentrate on what can be seen or heard in the behaviour of the staff member. Don't try to diagnose or guess why a person did what they did – concentrate on what they did.
- **Authentic** – based upon genuine interest in enabling performance rather than a desire to show that you are clever, smarter or better than or to control. Share ideas and information rather than giving advice. Use a conversational style and explore rather than prescribe "I wonder if there is another way of handling that? What ideas do you have?"
- **Paced & Pitched for the receiver** – so there is time for exploration and acceptance. Too much corrective feedback at one time is likely to confuse or invite a defensive reaction especially if you are not in credit with that person's Emotional Bank Account. Use the "feedback sandwich" approach to keep balance as long as it is genuine, that is giving a piece of corrective feedback.
- **Support reflection not direction** – feedback is not telling someone how to do something your way or creating dependence on the supervisor. It is providing concrete information that enables someone to consider alternatives, to learn and change or enhance what they do.

(Taken from PPR for Supervisors – Making it Work 2007)

Capability Model Summary

- Capabilities increase in sophistication from lower to higher position levels

	Staff Member eg Case Worker, Admin/clerical, Project officer	Frontline Manager/Supervisor eg MCW, SSM, Team Leader, Snr Project Officer	Middle Manager eg MCS, Principal Project officer	Director eg DCF, DPS, DPP
First Tier Capabilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Empathy • Client Focus • Communication • Organisational Management • Procedural Awareness • Analytical Ability 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Empathy • Client Focus • Communication • Organisational Management • Procedural Awareness • Analytical Ability 		
Second Tier Capabilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relationship Management • Negotiation and Influence • Professional Judgement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relationship Management • Negotiation and Influence • Professional Judgement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relationship Management • Negotiation and Influence • Professional Judgement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relationship Management • Negotiation and Influence • Professional Judgement
Third Tier Capabilities		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Results Orientation • Staff Insight • Staff Support 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Results Orientation • Staff Insight • Staff Support 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Results Orientation • Staff Insight • Staff Support
Fourth Tier Capabilities			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Change Leadership • Organisational Awareness 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Change Leadership • Organisational Awareness
Fifth Tier Capabilities				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic Thinking • Program Leadership

Professional Development Self Assessment Template

Level: Staff Member (Grade 3 / 4 – 7 / 8)

(no supervisory responsibility)

	Never	Almost Never	Not often	Sometimes	Often	Almost Always	Always
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Client Focus							
1. I understand the attitudes, interests, and needs of others	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. I am able to see things from the client's ¹ perspective	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. I am focused on achieving the best possible results for the client	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. I build rapport with the client	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. I operate according to the client's best interests	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. I actively seek to gain greater knowledge of the client's wants and needs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. I take the appropriate level of responsibility for the client's wants and needs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Communication							
1. I actively listen and ask questions to build understanding	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. I achieve understanding through language that is understandable and sensitive	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. I can accurately communicate the purpose and goals of my role	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. I speak clearly and express myself well	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. I manage conflict through effective communication	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. I document information clearly and effectively through written records	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Organisational Management							
1. I take a systematic approach to my work	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. I identify clear and specific priorities and goals up front	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. I seek clarity about the organisational requirements of my role	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. I meet the organisational requirements of my role (e.g. meet agreed deadlines, follow through on agreed actions, act within delegations)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. I organise information systematically	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Procedural Awareness							
1. I demonstrate application of key legislation, policy and procedures for each assessment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. I demonstrate application of key legislation, policy and procedures for each intervention	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. I apply knowledge of endorsed contemporary research	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. I meet KiDS' or other recording requirements	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. I demonstrate application of key legislation, policy and procedures for dealing with diverse groups (e.g. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander clients and culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) clients)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

¹ 'Client' refers to the relevant service recipient

Professional Development Self Assessment Template

Level: Frontline Manager/Supervisor (Grade 5 / 6 – 9 / 10)

(has supervisory responsibility)

Never	Almost Never	Not often	Sometimes	Often	Almost Always	Always
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

Empathy

- | | | | | | | | |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. I understand the attitudes, interests, and needs of others | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. I am able to see things from the client's ¹ perspective | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. I demonstrate ability to understand the thoughts and feelings of others | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. I reflect on the potential impact of my own and the team members' background/values when working together with clients | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. I am approachable to members of my team | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Client Focus

- | | | | | | | | |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. I am focused on helping the team member achieve the best possible results for the work undertaken | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. I build rapport with clients | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. I assist team members to discover and meet underlying client needs, and match these to services provided | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. I actively seek to gain greater knowledge of the wants and needs of clients | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Communication

- | | | | | | | | |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. I actively listen and ask questions to build understanding of clients and team members | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. I communicate complex issues in a simple way | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. I convey information clearly and effectively to clients and team members | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. I check client and team member understanding of information | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. I exhibit tact and diplomacy in communications | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. I resolve conflict effectively | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Organisational Management

- | | | | | | | | |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. I take a systematic approach to planning, support and supervision | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. I show good judgment in identifying the need to reassess and change priorities | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. I identify and proactively manage risk | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. I appropriately manage the challenge of balancing resources with workloads | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. I monitor systems of information | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Procedural Awareness

- | | | | | | | | |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. I apply my professional/technical knowledge when giving advice to others | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. I ensure team member compliance with key legislation, policy and procedures in general workplace practice | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. I ensure team member decision making is specifically informed by key legislation, policy and procedures | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. I relay knowledge of endorsed contemporary research to others | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. I ensure team member compliance with key legislation, policy and procedures when working with diverse groups (e.g. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander clients and culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) clients) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

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