

Defining Educational Success

Family and Carer's Discussion Prompts

Context

Defining Educational Success is a piece of work responding to Recommendation 1 of the Independent Education Review, which identified the need to strengthen how educational success is described, measured, and communicated. Current narratives about success in education are often narrow and do not always resonate with students or families or reflect the full value of education.

This work will develop a definition of educational success—one that reflects the experiences, aspirations, and diverse pathways of all learners. The definition will be supported by an action plan that identifies the changes needed across the system to better set learners up for success.

Central to this work is hearing directly from children and young people, families, staff and stakeholders about what success means to them and how we can help our learners to be successful.

Engagement will take place until **19 June**. For questions or support, you can [email the team](#).

Contributing to the work

The discussion prompts can be used to seek input in any format suitable for your context. That might be:

- Small group discussions
- 1:1 discussions
- Facilitated activities

The prompts can be adapted as required. However, we ask that the discussion focuses on three core questions:

1. What does success in education look like now?
2. What should success in education look like in the future?
3. What needs to change to support success?

The discussion must also test the following definition of educational success:

**Education helps me grow and gives me hope for my future.
I'm connected, capable, and confident – and ready for what's next.**

Please record any findings using the collection sheet provided.

Scan and return any completed sheets by email to the project team OR use the QR code or [link](#).



Discussion prompts

1. What does success in education look like now?

- When you think of a child doing well at school/learning today, what comes to mind?
- What signs does the school use to show a child is successful (reports, grades, awards, behaviour, attendance)?
- What other signs tell you your child is learning well/doing well at school?
- What makes you feel proud of your child's learning right now?
- What things do you worry are not noticed or valued enough?
- Do all children seem to have the same chance to be seen as successful?

2. What should educational success look like for our children in the future?

- When you think of a child doing well at school in an ideal state, what comes to mind?
- When your child leaves school, what do you most hope they have learned?
- What kind of person do you hope they grow into?
- How important are things like:
 - confidence and wellbeing?
 - curiosity and love of learning?
 - problem-solving and creativity?
 - kindness and responsibility?
 - friendships and connections?
- How should school prepare children for a world that is changing quickly?

3. What needs to change to support children's success?

- What gets in the way of children enjoying learning?
- How could schools better share children's growth, not just results?
- What would meaningful feedback about children's progress at school look like for both children and parents?
- What is one change that would most improve your child's experience at school?

4. Testing a definition of educational success

- How well does this definition describe what success in education should mean?
- Why do you say that?

Data Recording Template

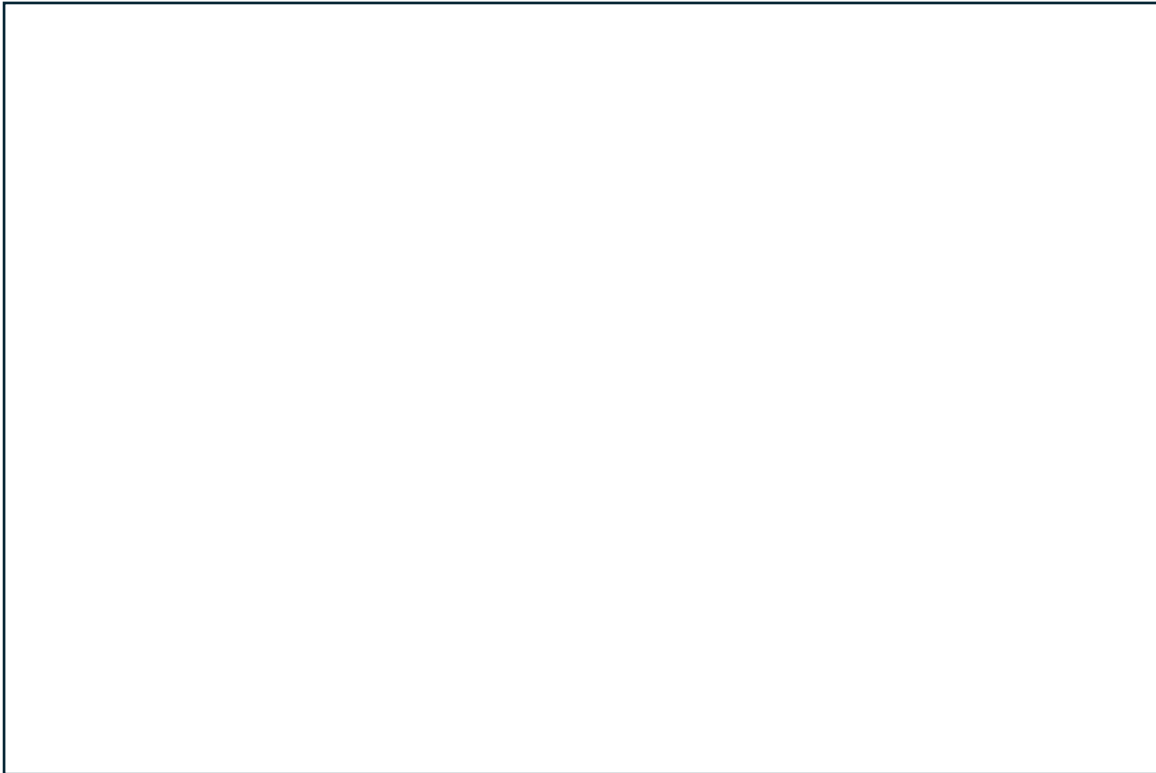
Group/School/CFLC: _____

Date: _____

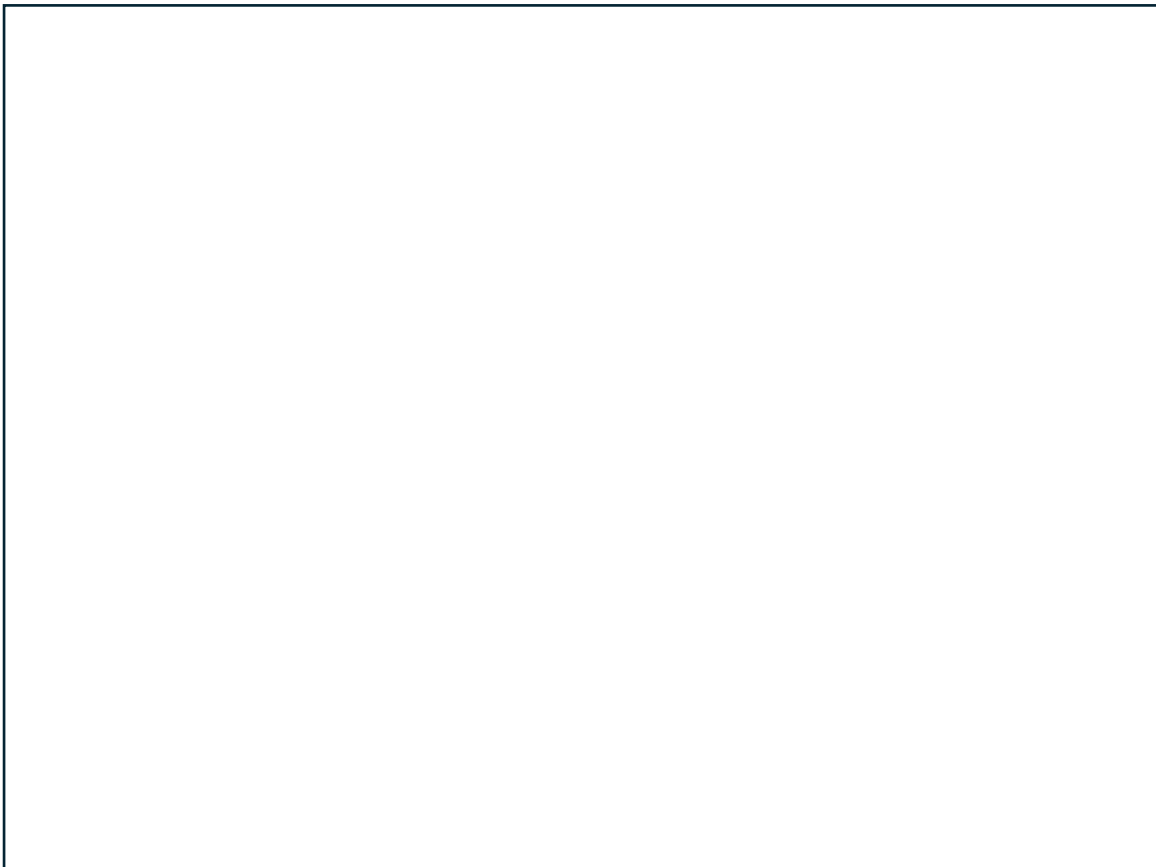
1. Please briefly describe the engagement undertaken.

2. What questions did you ask?

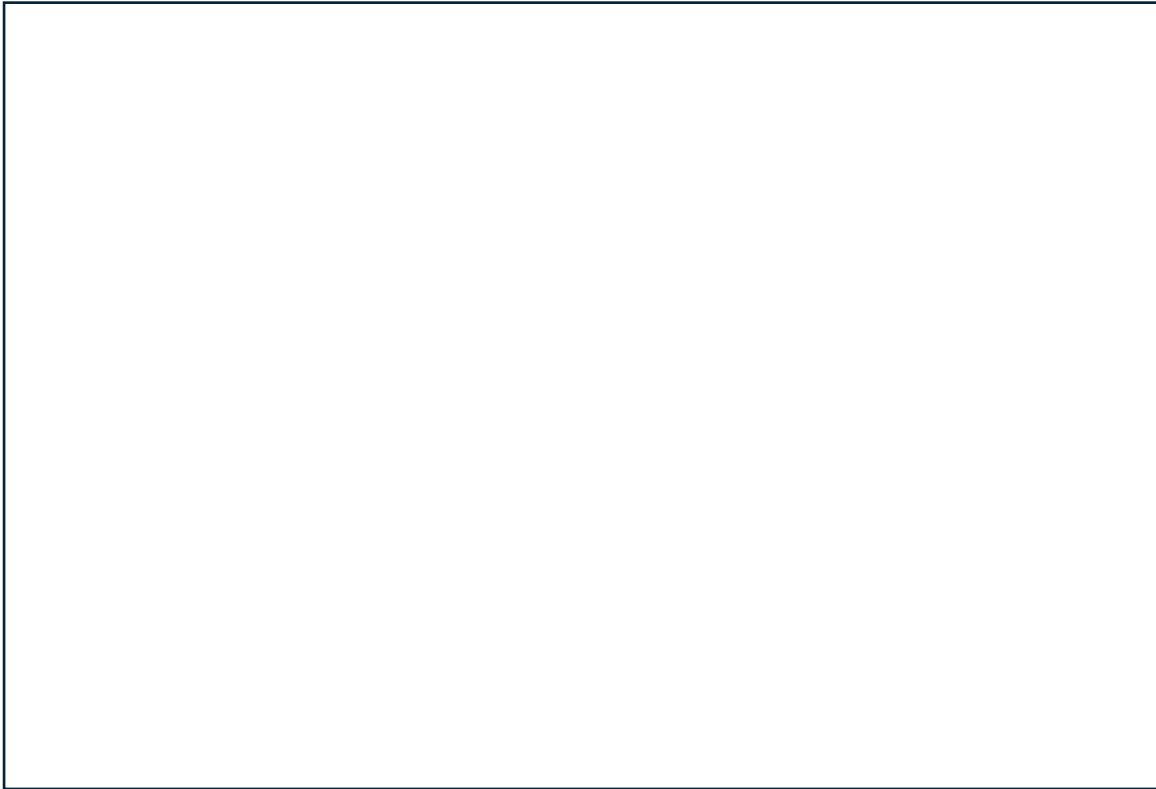
3. What did you hear about what success in education looks like now?



4. What did you hear about what success should look like in the future?



5. What did you hear about what needs to change to support success?



6. What did you hear about the definition of educational success?

