

Tips for Virtual Practice-Based Coaching

Applying the Practice-Based Coaching framework in a virtual delivery format provides a number of benefits for early childhood professionals. But, it can also present some unique challenges for professionals, too. The following tips can help you fulfill and support the coaching essentials of the PBC framework when working in a virtual setting.

Strengths and Needs Assessments

- Use fillable PDF forms or electronic survey formats that can be stored and shared on file sharing systems or video coaching platforms.

Shared Goal Setting and Action Planning

- Use screen sharing during a videoconference so both the coach and coachee can see the current goal and action plan.
- Check or confirm any updates to the plan with the coachee.
- E-mail or text the plan to ensure that the coachee has access to it.

Observation

- Watch video collected by coachee.
- Use a device like a cell phone, webcam, or tablet to watch practices as they are implemented.
- Use an external microphone to enhance sound.
- Use earbuds to provide side-by-side verbal support.

Reflective Conversation

- Meet by videoconference or phone or use a virtual coaching platform.
- Ask questions and make comments to facilitate reflection about progress toward the goal and action steps.

Performance Feedback: Supportive and Constructive Feedback

- Meet by videoconference or phone or use a virtual coaching platform.
- Give specific supportive and constructive feedback in relation to the goal and action plan.
- Use screen sharing to show video or images of practices observed.

Share Resources and Materials

- Use screen sharing during video conferences to show resources.
- Share resources electronically via e-mail, text, or virtual coaching platforms during or after the session.

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