Assessment Plan - Whelan Children's Center

The Whelan Children's Center’s assessment plan is based on the goals set forth by the program’s strategic and annual goals. The combination of assessment tools utilized helps the department determine whether the current goals are being met and the future goals that should be set.

The Program Review provides an opportunity to identify strengths and weaknesses in the following areas: curriculum; staff qualifications and professional development; interactions among teachers and children; relationships among teachers and families; administration; physical environment; health and safety; nutrition and food service; and relationship with the University.

Internal assessment activities for 2010-11 included:

a. Classroom observation by the director.  
b. Distribution and review of an open-ended family survey and questionnaire.  
c. Distribution and review of a family exit survey.  
d. Ages and Stages assessments were completed in September for each child enrolled to determine if there are any areas of concern in terms of development.  
e. Center-developed assessments were conducted in the spring for each child in the toddler through preschool classes to determine the skills they have mastered.

The Center is inspected annually by various state departments to ensure compliance with policies. These inspections are a few of the external assessments each year that factor into determining if the strategic and annual goals are being met. External assessment activities for 2010-11 included:

a. Annual review of licensing requirements conducted by the State of Louisiana Department of Social Services Bureau of Licensing.  
b. Annual review of compliance with regulations conducted by the State of Louisiana Office of the State Fire Marshal, code Enforcement and Building Safety, as well as the New Orleans Fire Prevention Division.  