✓ Individual-level indicators are asset-oriented

One way to avoid problematizing children or groups of children is to actively seek out indicators that are positive or asset-oriented. YDEKC’s Skills and Dispositions framework is one example of an asset-oriented approach.

✓ The voices of youth and families are actively sought

In looking at your overall evaluation plan, think about whether it takes into account multiple perspectives. In particular, try to ensure that the impressions of participants and their families are solicited through interviews, surveys, or similar.

✓ Data collection methods are well suited to your evaluation purpose

Consider the following when choosing a data collection method:

- Reliability and validity of the instrument
- Feasibility of the method in terms of cost and burden on staff and participants
- Appropriateness of the method to the question being asked

✓ Data collection methods are well suited to the population you serve

Try to ensure that you are collecting data in ways that are responsive to age, race, language, culture, etc. Wherever possible, test out your data collection method with young people, or involve them in its design and deployment.

✓ Survey and interview questions avoid common pitfalls

When crafting questions for surveys or interviews, strive for clarity. Work to avoid leading, ambiguous, double-barreled, or overly complex questions.