



## STEPS TO EFFECTIVE SEL ASSESSMENT

It's important to understand your students' social and emotional skill level, so you can build on strengths and address needs through curriculum, instruction and your relationship with your students.

1

### **What is your SEL skills focus?**

Which specific skills will you teach and assess? Spend time with your school community to create consensus. Reference the CASEL framework to establish your focus.

2

### **Why do you want to assess SEL?**

Do you want to evaluate a program's effectiveness? Equip teachers with formative assessments on students' strengths and needs? Advance your MTSS? To pick the right assessment and use it productively, be clear about what you want to accomplish.

3

### **What's the best tool for your assessment goal?**

There are teacher rating scales, direct assessments of SEL skills where students show their skills through tasks, and self-report questionnaires. There are free and fee-based tools. Each approach has strengths and weaknesses. Consider a combination of assessments.

4

### **How will you partner with your parent community?**

Before assessing SEL skills how will you educate parents about your assessment plan, goals, and how you will use the data to make things better. How will you address parent concerns?

5

### **How do you intend to discuss the data?**

What are the forums for data discussion? How will your team review, deliberate over, interpret and make sense of the findings? Do you have existing data review practices? Can you expand reviews of reading, math, and behavior data to include SEL?

6

### **What will you do with what you learned?**

There are many ways to use SEL data including selecting an evidence-based program, staff professional development, coaching on creating a positive climate, integrating skill development into academic lessons, considering tiered support.