



Choosing a Childminder – Questions you might want to ask.

This is a guide of what kind of questions you should be asking Childminders when you are viewing their setting for your child's care.

It is important that you understand how each childminder will care for your child and what facilities will

be available to enable you to decide if you want to take up your childcare there.

We have set this guide out so you can make notes below each question if you wish to.

if@enfield.gov.uk

For more information, please visit
www.enfield.gov.uk/fid

Questions

How long have you been childminding and how long do you intend to do it for?

Where does the childminding take place?

What kinds of meals and snacks do you give the children?

Do you have a backup arrangement with another registered childminder?

Can I see your Ofsted registration, public liability and first aid certificates? (Are they all valid?) Registration certificate should always be on display when childminding.

Where will my child sleep?

Can I see your log of compliments and complaints?

How will you ensure my child has opportunities to play outside each day?

Do you use a car when childminding? Do you have appropriate insurance and car seats?

How many other children will be with my child, how old are they?

Do you have pets?

Who else is in the house whilst you childmind?

Do you have your own children? Will this affect the time and attention my own child will receive?

What learning activities, toys and books will you provide for my child?

What is your daily routine and how would you inform me each day? (Verbally / daily record sheet/ keep a journal etc.)

How will you record my child's observations, assessments and planning and share these with us?

Do you take the children to under-fives session?

What is your policy on discipline and excluding children who are not well?

Please can I see all of your policies and procedures that you have in place?

Can I see your latest Ofsted inspection report?

When will your service not be available e.g. holidays, sickness etc

Do you attend regular training?

How many people over the age of 16 live or work on the premises with you? Do they have a DBS certificate?

**Key to finding a
childminder Choose your
childminder well**

- Make sure you understand and feel comfortable with how your child's behaviour will be managed, food and drink, routines and learning activities.
- Trust your instincts – You know your child best
- Ensure you have regular and honest communication with your childminder – ensure that both you and the childminder are in agreement about the specifics within your contract.
- Regular, honest communication
- Raise any concerns straight away – Don't let them fester. Find a mutually convenient time to talk together.
- Pay your childminder on time – They rely on a regular income
- Be punctual
- Don't place your childminder in a difficult situation – let them know if someone different will be delivering or collecting your child or if you are running late.

How do I find a registered Childminder?

Log onto www.enfield.gov.uk/fid

Click on **All Other Childcare**

Tick **Childminder**

Input your **postcode** and the **distance in miles** of how far you would like to search around **your address**. For example: **1mile**



Click **Search IF**

This will bring up every registered childminder in your local area.

