



Making your decision:

We recommend that you check details with providers to ensure that their service meets your requirements. Before your visit spend some time thinking about what you are looking for in a childminder. Follow the checklist below.

What parents/carers should look for:

What parents/carers should do:



Childminder Inspections

All registered childminders must have their home and childcare practice inspected regularly by Ofsted (Office for Standards in Education) to ensure the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage are being met. Inspections are graded as outstanding, good, satisfactory or inadequate.

Read the inspection report carefully and if you have any questions discuss them with the childminder.

[Inspection reports](#) can be viewed on the Ofsted website (www.ofsted.gov.uk) or you can ask to look at the childminder's copy of the report.

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Insurance

All registered childminders must have an up to date public liability insurance certificate.

Ask to see the childminder's public liability certificate and check that it is up to date.

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First aid

All registered childminders must have an up to date first aid certificate.

Ask to see the childminder's first aid certificate and check that it is up to date.

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Training

All registered childminders must have completed a childminding course before or within six months of registering with Ofsted.

Ask to see the childminder's certificate to show that they have completed the course.

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Ofsted Registration

All registered childminders must have a current Ofsted registration certificate. This must be displayed for parents/carers to view.

Ask the childminder where their Ofsted registration certificate is displayed.

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Contract

It is important to agree a written [contract](#) at the start of your childcare arrangement. This will set out clearly what you expect from the childminder, and what is expected from you.

Make sure you agree issues such as [payments](#), holidays and sick leave in a written contract. This will help prevent disagreements later on.

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Remember, the Family Information Service can offer you support to help you find a childminder.
Phone: 020 8227 5395 e-mail: fis@lbbd.gov.uk