What is a childminding network?

In Hackney, we have childminding networks which each cover a different local area. Each network has its own childminding network coordinator, who is based at one of our Children’s Centres.

The purpose of networks is to ensure good quality childcare for children and their families.

Only experienced, high quality childminders are on the network. Childminders are assessed before they join the network and are given training, advice and information. Our networks are part of Pacey Children Come First quality assurance scheme: www.ncmaccf.org.uk.

Your network coordinator can help you to find a network childminder to suit your needs. You can contact your coordinator through your local Children’s Centre.

See the back page of this leaflet for contact details.

Choosing a childminder

A guide for parents

For more information contact your local Children’s Centre or call the Hackney Family Information Service on 020 8820 7590

Contact your local Children’s Centre and ask to speak to the childminding network coordinator

For more information contact:

Family Information Service
T. 020 8820 7590
E. fis@learningtrust.co.uk
Choosing a childminder

A childminder is a person who looks after a child in the childminder’s own home. They provide a safe and caring home environment where children can play and develop life skills.

All childminders listed by Hackney Learning Trust are registered by Ofsted. This means they have shown a childcare inspector how they meet the legal requirements for childminders. All registered childminders are trained in first aid, health and safety and child care practice.

Why choose a registered childminder?

- Your child will receive individual attention (which makes childminding ideal for young children).
- Your child will have a familiar carer who provides play and learning activities and visits to local parks, toy libraries and children’s centres.
- Your child can make friends with the childminder’s other children.
- You may be able to get hours that fit in around your work.
- The childminder can support your family for years as your children grow up.

Here are some questions to ask the childminder:

Hours and charges
- How much do you charge?
- Do your fees include meals?
- What are your overtime rates?
- How much do you charge for absence, sickness and holidays?

The childminder’s home
- How many other children do you look after? What are their ages?
- Do you have any pets? How will you make sure my child is kept safe around your pets?

The daily routine
- What activities and routines do you provide for the children?
- What do you do about sweets, snacks and drinks?
- How do you manage difficult behaviour?
- How would you deal with an emergency?

The childminder’s training and experience
- What training and experience do you have?
- Do you drive? Does your car have the right seats?
- Do you have appropriate insurance cover?

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