

# Becoming a Childminder

## Part 1

- What is a childminder?
- Do I have to register as a childminder?
- Which register should I join?
- What does a childminder do?
- What are the key qualities that would make a good childminder?
- Why is now the best time to become a childminder?
- How much will it cost me to become a childminder?
- Still interested?

# What is a childminder?

A childminder is a person who receives payment for working in their own home, looking after at least one child for more than 2 hours a day

*If it is only your friend's children, you can care for them for 3 hours with some payment without needing to register*

# Do I have to register as a childminder?

## You don't have to register if you:

- Only look after children aged 8+
- Look after children for fewer than 2 hours a day
- Are the child's parent, step-parent, foster parent or relative
- Care for children in their own home
- Look after a friend's child for free (or paid, but only for up to 3 hours)
- Only look after the child between 6pm and 2am (i.e. babysitting)
- Provide home education or you're tutoring children aged 3+ in only one or two activities e.g. maths or sports

**You can choose to register, even if you don't have to**

# Which register should I join?

- **Early Years Register**
- **Childcare Register**

Each register has its own set of requirements:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/early-years-and-childcare-registration>

- Early Years Register (to look after children from birth to 31 August after their 5<sup>th</sup> birthday)
- Childcare Register (to look after children aged 5 to 7)
- Both registers to look after all ages up to 8  
voluntary part of the Childcare Register if you don't have to register

# What does a childminder do?

## Childminders:

- Provide a home from home environment
- Respond to individual routines and personal needs
- Offer an emotionally nurturing space to support children's wellbeing
- Plan fun activities to make sure children's learning and development needs are met
- Keep children safe
- Maintain records and information
- Work alongside parents, carers and other professionals

# What are the key qualities that would make a good childminder?

- Love for children
- Patient and understanding
- Energetic, enthusiastic and caring
- Flexible
- Organised and self-motivated
- Committed to ongoing professional development
- Communicates well and able to build relationships with parents, carers and other professionals

# How much will it cost me to become a childminder?

- £48.10 for each DBS check
- £13 annual fee for DBS Update (optional but recommended)
- £35 to join both registers or £103 to join Childcare Register only (annual fee)

## **Other costs:**

- Public liability insurance
- GP to fill in and sign health declaration booklet
- First aid training (See statutory requirements)
- Resources

# Still interested?

Please get in touch with:

## **Solihull Early Years & Childcare Service**

By clicking the form below or scanning the QR code:

[Becoming a Childminder  
in Solihull](#)  
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Becoming a Childminder in Solihull

