

Childminder

Find out what childminders do, their duties and responsibilities, and how their work differs from other forms of childcare. You can also learn what the benefits of childminding are for your child, the skills and qualities of a childminder, and more!

Download **FREE** teacher-made resources covering 'Childminder'

View FREE Resources

What is a childminder?

Childminder Welcome Pack

A childminder is a **type of early years' provider**, normally one of 1-3 adults who look after children in a setting, usually a home. Typically, the home will belong to one of the childminders, and the other adults may be people who live with the childminder (siblings, partner, or their own children), or people the childminder employs to assist with their business. To be classed as childminding, childcare has to take place for at least two hours in a single day.

Childminding can be an alternative to a nursery or after-school club. Young children who are not yet at school age may spend an entire day with their childminder, whilst older children may just be there for a few hours after school.

What are the two main types of childminding?

Finding Out All About Me

These people are special to me:

I feel happy when:

I sometimes get upset when:

These are some of the amazing things I can do:

I like to play:

This is me:

My name is:

These are some of my favourite things:

When I get upset, this helps me:

Sometimes I find these things tricky:

I would also like you to know:

ink saving Eco

Settling In Editable Transition Form

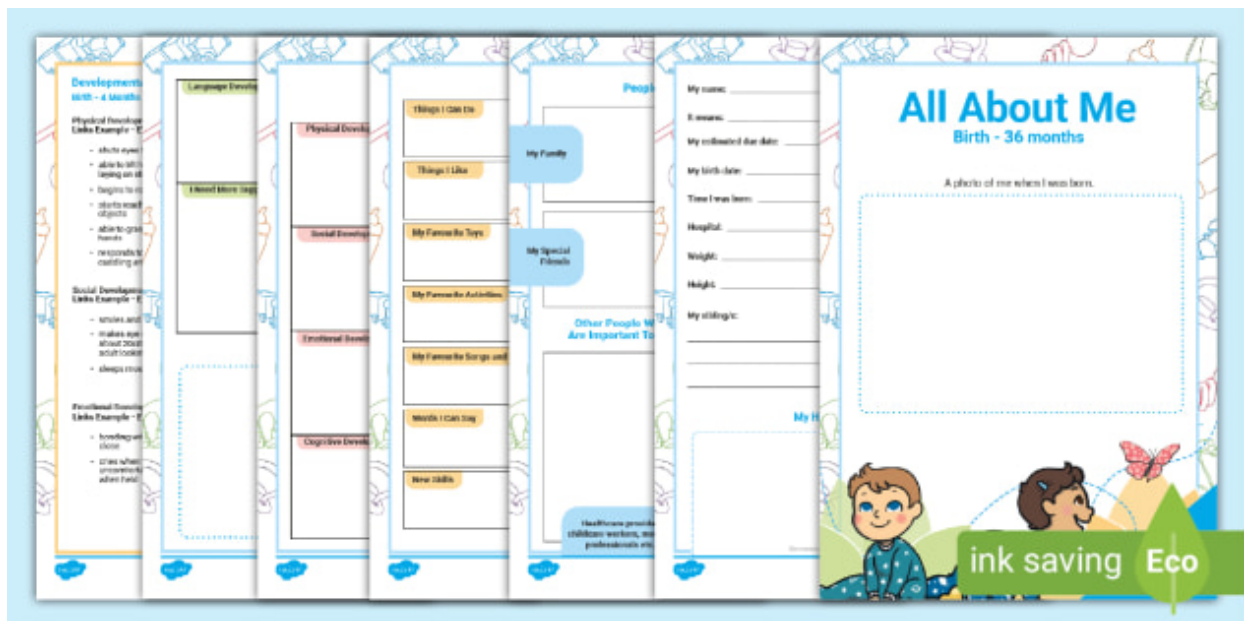
Here in England, there are two main types of childminding:

1. **Early Years Childminders** - These childminders look after children from birth until the 31st of August following their 5th birthday.
2. **Later Years Childminders** - Later years childminders look after any children over the age of 5.

Each type of childminding has its own legal register that childminders must be on. It is possible to be on both registers if you look after a wide range of children.



What does a childminder do?



Birth - 3 Years All about Me Parent Input Booklet

A lot of people think a childminder's daily duties simply revolve around meeting children's needs. They are expected to keep them fed, clean, safe, and happy. Of course, this is part of what childminders do! But a **childminder's duties and responsibilities** cover lots more, too.

A Childminder's Duties and Responsibilities:

- Childminders provide day-to-day care for their children. They **cook healthy meals, change nappies and keep children comfortable, clean, and safe**. Childminders have a duty to take note of allergies and specific needs when providing food and care, too.
- **Planning fun activities** to make sure children's needs are met. Often they encourage social time with other children, making sure activities are age-appropriate.
- Their top priority is **keeping children safe** while their parents are busy or unable to do so. A childminder has a responsibility to provide a safe environment that is free from dangers - from dangerous surfaces to allergens.
- Childminders must offer an **emotionally safe space**. They help children to feel happy and safe while with them and work with families to support children's mental health and wellbeing.
- Much of a childminder's time can include **paperwork**. For example, writing and following risk assessments and emergency procedures. Childminders will often be in charge of their own documents. They'll organise a routine with clients, sort out personal data for families, and adhere to data protection.

There's another often overlooked part of a childminder's duties and responsibilities that takes up a lot of a childminder's time. An equally important part of the role is assisting with **children's learning and development**. All childminders registered with an early years childminder agency must follow the **EYFS statutory framework**. This is in the exact same way that early years practitioners, nursery teachers, and school staff do. This means that a large part of what childminders do revolves around supporting **young children's development and education**. Following this government guidance, childminders also have a responsibility to:

- Plan and provide activities, experiences, or educational programmes. Their activities should cover all areas of prime and specific learning. These should be age-appropriate and informed by each child's needs.
- Help children work towards early learning goals (ELGs). The aim of these is to ensure they have the appropriate level of knowledge, skills, and understanding by the time they're five years old and begin school.
- Observing and assessing children regarding their progress, and reporting this back to parents and carers. They may be involved in planning the next steps to help each child on their own learning journey.

We have an excellent selection of **Tracking Documents for Childminders** to help early years childminders stay on top of this.



Skills and Qualities of a Childminder

Interactive PDF

Business Tools

Personal Information and Permissions

Child's Full Name:	Date of Birth:
Child's Address:	Home Language:
	Password for Collection (where applicable):

Adults with Parental Responsibility			
Name:		Name:	
Address (if different from child):		Address (if different from child):	
Relationship to Child:		Relationship to Child:	

Does anybody else have a legal right to contact with the child? Yes: ☐ No: ☐

Personal Information and Permissions Form for Childminders

Working as a childminder requires a variety of key skills and qualities.

- **Patience and Understanding** - Like all jobs working with children, having patience for the children and families you work with is key. Whether that's while a child is adjusting to a new space, while you're working out how to communicate with a new family, or just over a stressful day.
- **Love for children** - If you're a childminder, you're going to be working with children a lot! Having a love for children is a helpful quality to motivate a childminder and help them enjoy their day-to-day work.
- **Flexibility** - Childminders may care for a range of children, from toddlers and very young children to providing holiday or after-school care for older children. Flexibility around children's needs, changing interests, daily temperaments, and even the weather is key.
- **Working Well Under Pressure** - Like any job working in childcare, there will be some periods of stress. This might be day-to-day stresses like building

up to pick up time, juggling food at mealtime, or looking after children of multiple ages at the same time. But childminders must also be prepared to deal with accidents or emergencies if and when they arise. Being able to provide safe care and respond quickly and calmly in a high-pressure situation is a key skill for childminders to be able to respond in a way that keeps children safe.

- **People Skills** - Of all the skills and qualities of a childminder, having people skills is one of the most important. Childminders work face to face with children and families; building relationships as clients and as key figures for growing children. This enables you to build a strong professional relationship, which helps when starting off and building a business as a childminder, whilst making the experience enjoyable for you and your families.
- **First Aid Training** - Ofsted requires registered childminders to have at least one member of staff with first aid training working at all times. This allows childminders to work to safeguard children and respond to emergencies quickly and appropriately.
- **Basic Technical Skills** - Whether a childminder works for themselves or with a wider agency, being able to use technology like computers is regularly required. This might be for contacting and communicating with parents and families, or keeping paperwork and records up to date and organised. This might mean the papers and policies like risk assessments which are needed, or even looking after financial records.

How is childminding regulated?

The image displays two versions of the 'All About Me Information Form (Ages 0-2)'. The left version is a smaller, more compact form with sections for 'Talking/Changing Routine', 'Like and Dislike', and 'Learning and Exploring'. The right version is a larger, more detailed form with sections for 'Family and Home', 'Health, Care and Routines', and 'Medical'. Both forms include a 'Child's name' and 'Date of birth' field at the top. The right form also features a green 'ink saving Eco' logo in the bottom right corner.

EYFS All About Me Information Form (Ages 0-2)

Ofsted



New Starter Form for Babies	
Full Legal Name of Child:	(INSERT TEXT)
Preferred Name:	(INSERT TEXT)
Date of birth:	(INSERT TEXT)
<small>Please Note: This document will be used to help me provide appropriate activities and support for your child. Please answer all questions honestly so I can prepare myself and my setting to meet their needs. If your child cannot do some of the things listed, please do not worry. This is a generic questionnaire for all preschool ages and abilities. If your child has additional needs, please give as much detail as you can so I can ensure I am prepared for their everyday care requirements. Accurate information will help me to meet your child's needs from their first day in my setting.</small>	
Family and Friends	
These are the people/pets who live in our house:	
(INSERT TEXT)	
These are other important people in our family/life:	
(INSERT TEXT)	
Your Child	
Favourite toys:	(INSERT TEXT)

New Starter Form for Babies in Private Childcare Settings

Similarly to UK schools and nurseries, childminders are subject to Ofsted inspections. The main goal of these inspections is to ensure that the childminder and anyone over the age of 16 who may live or work with them are suitable to care for children. The inspectors will also make sure the home the childminding is happening in is a safe and child-friendly place.

Ofsted inspectors are also responsible for making sure that childminders on the early years' register are able to meet the requirements of the **Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)**. Find out about some of these requirements like **Guidelines for Childminder Numbers** with more of our handy wiki pages.

Childminders can then use their Ofsted rating when advertising their services - this lets people know that they are correctly meeting standards, so they know that their children will be happy and safe.



What are the benefits for children?



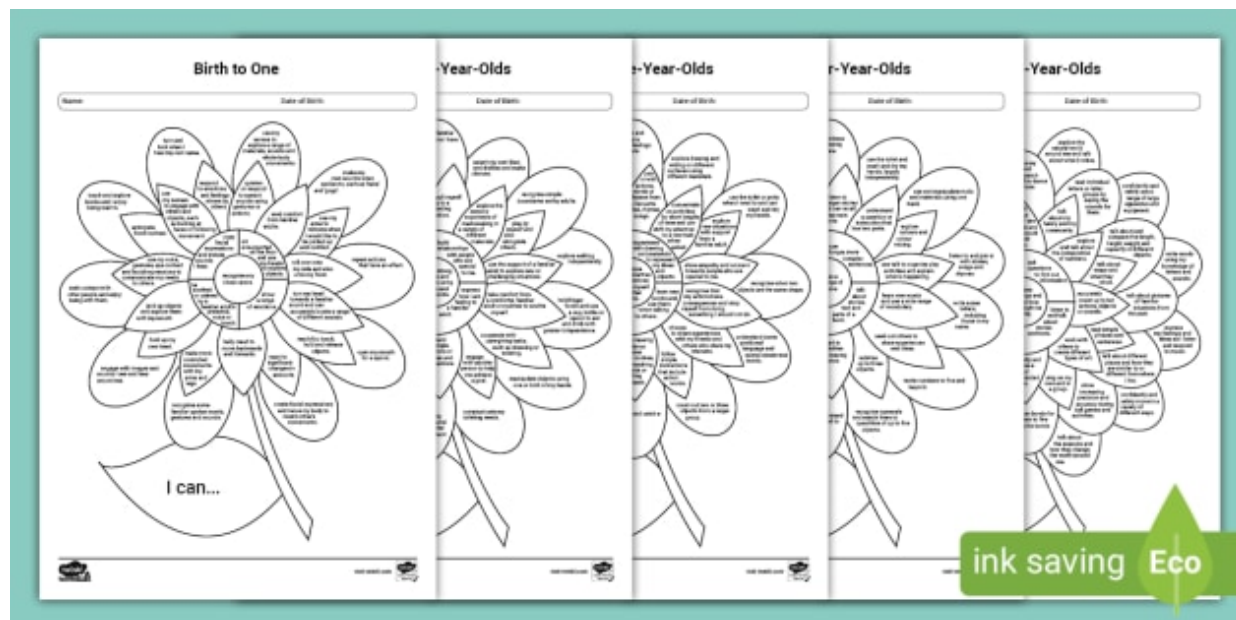
School Preparation Pack for Childminders

Whether you're looking for a childminder for a whole day or for after school purposes, going to a childminder can have many benefits for your child:

- Your child will have all the comforts and security of a home. This will include anything your childminder provides to entertain them such as toys, books, or TV time - just like being at home!
- There may be other children for them to play and socialise with.
- A childminder will usually look after fewer children than there would be in a nursery class. This allows your children to develop a closer bond with them, as well as allowing the childminder to better understand their needs and the support they may require.
- Since there are fewer children, this also allows for greater flexibility in regard to trips! This could mean time at the local play park or even bigger trips such as going to the zoo.



How to be a registered childminder:



EYFS Birth to Five 'I Can' Assessment Flower Pack

If you're wondering how to be a registered childminder in the UK, here are the essential steps you need to take and the memberships you need to obtain. Firstly, you must be over 18 and have no previous bans or disqualifications from working with children. You'll need an enhanced criminal record check with DBS to verify this. You'll also need first aid training and childcare training, which can be obtained through your local

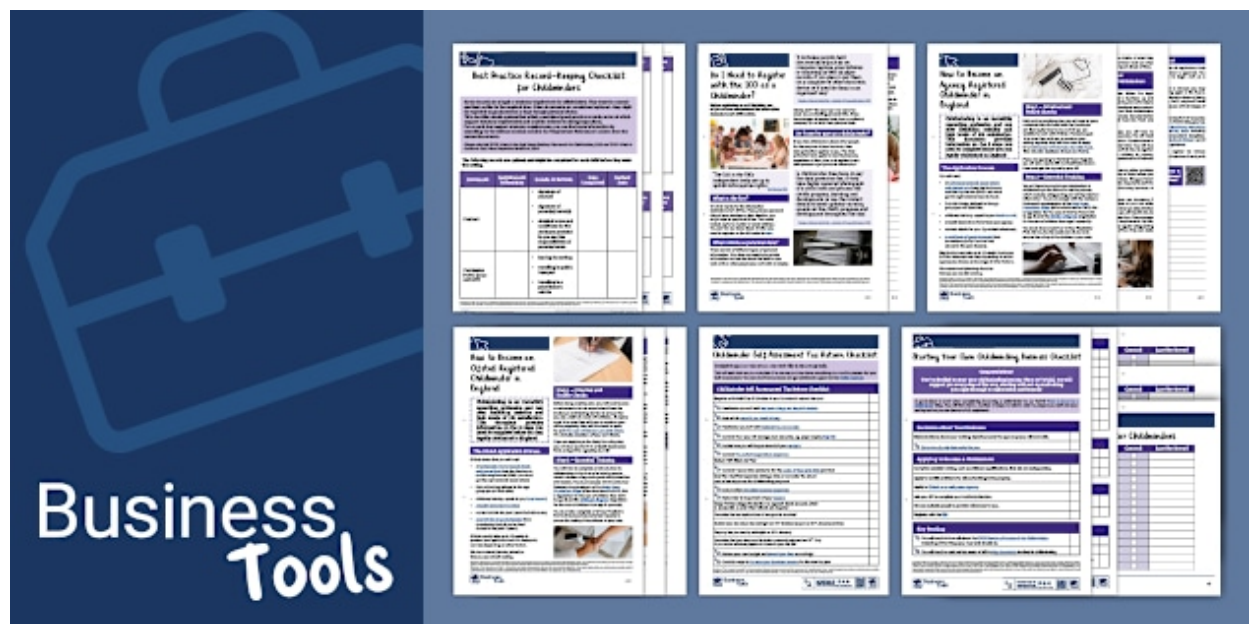
council.

Then, to become a childminder, you need to register with Ofsted or a childminder agency. It's required that you register as a childminder if all the following statements apply to the childcare you wish to carry out:

- You'll be looking after children under the age of 8;
- Childcare will take place for more than 2 hours a day;
- You'll be caring for children in your own home;
- You'll receive payment (of any kind) to care for the children.

There are costs involved when becoming a registered childminder: The Ofsted registration fee is £35 a year for the Early Years register and the Childcare Register, or £104.00 a year for just the Childcare Register. Fees charged by childminder agencies will differ depending on the agency you choose, and the services they offer.

Try our resources, made specifically to support childminders



Childminders Set-Up Pack

Since childminding involves working to Ofsted guidelines and making sure that everyone is safe, we've designed a range of childminding paperwork resources to help it run smoothly, such as useful accident report form templates.

- **Childminders Parent Questionnaire All About Me for Babies** - This questionnaire is perfect for childminders that look after babies. Parents fill it out before you meet the baby, so you can understand what stage the baby is at, as well as the babies' likes and dislikes.
- **Childminders Taster Resource Pack** - This pack of resources is great for any childminder following the Early Years Foundation Stage framework. It is filled with lots of great activities to help you teach young children, including 2D shape worksheets and Jack-and-the-Beanstalk-inspired activities.
- **Accident Record Form With Body Map Template** - We know that small children can sometimes have accidents. This accident record form template helps you to create a detailed and impartial record of what

happened. This will help parents to understand, and keep their confidence in your work.

We've also got this blog that could prove a handy find: **Guidance to Help Support Childminders with Reducing Paperwork in Line with the Statutory Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) 2021**

How to use an accident report form in childminding:

Business Tools

New Starter Form for Babies

Full Legal Name of Child: (INSERT TEXT)

Preferred Name: (INSERT TEXT) Date of birth: (INSERT TEXT)

Please Note: This document will be used to help me provide appropriate activities and support for your child. Please answer all questions honestly so I can prepare myself and my setting to meet their needs. If your child cannot do some of the things listed, please do not worry. This is a generic questionnaire for all preschool ages and abilities. If your child has additional needs, please give as much detail as you can so I can ensure I am prepared for their everyday care requirements. Accurate information will help me to meet your child's needs from their first day in my setting.

Family and Friends

These are the people/pets who live in our house:

(INSERT TEXT)

These are other important people in our family/life:

(INSERT TEXT)

Your Child

Favourite toys: (INSERT TEXT)

New Starter Form for Babies in Private Childcare Settings

Accident Record Form

Child's Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Date and time of accident: _____

Name of witness(es) present: _____ Place accident occurred: _____

Description of how the accident occurred: _____

Details of any injury and action taken: _____

Conditions of child following the accident: _____

Person contacted? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Name of person contacted: _____

How person was contacted: ☐ Call ☐ Visit ☐ Other ☐

Other notes: _____

Attending adult's signature: _____ Date: _____

Leader's signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent's signature: _____ Date: _____

Body Map Form

Front Back

Using an accident report form may be one of the most important things you do as a childminder. It is vital to report every incident, no matter how trivial it seems to you. This is because even the smallest accidents may lead to serious or long-term consequences.

Our accident report form will help you to record many of the necessary details, including:

- Child involved
- Date and time of the accident
- Where the accident occurred
- Description of how the incident occurred

- Any injured reported at the time

Here are some examples of when using a form to record accidents may be necessary:

1. When two children are playing with each other, and they bang heads. This can happen at any point, even if kids aren't intentionally being aggressive. You should fill out a record for each child involved in this incident - even if they claim their head does not hurt.
2. Slipping on a wet patch. Whether you are out in rainy weather or a child runs into a room where you have just cleaned the floor, slipping on wet surfaces is inevitable. This may result in bruising, which may seem trivial, but it is important to record. You can let the child's parent know where the bruises have come from, so they don't worry too much about their child.
3. Falling off play equipment. You may have climbing frames in your garden, or take the children you look after to a play area with them in. Children climbing around can sometimes end in a fall, and that's okay. However, whether they get a couple of scratches or break a bone, you still need to record the accident!

Once you have filled out your accident report, you should also let the parent know. In some circumstances, you'll call the parent immediately, so they know if their child is okay, for some minor incidents you might choose to wait until you can talk to the parent in person. You may find it helpful to show the form to the parent, so they have a full idea of what happened. You could even give the parent a copy of the form to save if there are any more questions.

To find out more about the Early Years Foundation Stage framework and how it may impact your work as a childminder, watch this video below:

Teach difficult concepts with ease, with the help of our weekly newsletter...

Registrieren Sie sich