

## Information for private landlords about childminding

- The statutory definition of childminding is childcare which takes place on 'domestic premises', in other words it must be in a 'home' and this is checked by Ofsted. This can be evidenced from the Ofsted fact sheet, 'Early Years and Childcare Registration Handbook'(page 4) on the Ofsted website  
Planning permission is **not** required because it is **not** a change of use of the premises.

- The ratio of children to adult is statutory and is enforced by Ofsted. A childminder cannot have more than three children under five and a maximum of six children under eight in total. This effectively means that during school hours there cannot be more than three young children on the premises if the childminder is working on his/her own without an assistant. After school a childminder might collect three older children, but most childminders do not operate at their full capacity and the comings and goings from a home are equivalent to family home with friends visiting. Parents drop off and collecting at different times during the day. A childminder must keep a register so that Ofsted can check that ratios are not exceeded and that all the children's welfare is prioritised

- It is a statutory requirement that childminders have public liability insurance
- Professional standards of childcare must be maintained and this is scrutinised and regulated by Ofsted through suitability checks which are before registration and thereafter by inspection and investigation, should there ever be a cause for a complaint.
- Professional standards include the care of the home environment which must be maintained as a clean, safe and uncluttered environment for learning.
- Childminders are also inspected by the Food Safety Team to ensure there hygienic conditions for the preparation and storage of food.
- In September 2017 it is envisaged that there will be an increased demand for childminding places for three and four year olds because the government will be introducing 30 hours free childcare. So, in areas of lower income, this will enable parents to afford childcare when previously it may have been too expensive, creating a demand for more childminders.
- In Bristol childminders are paid £5.02 per hour, per child, for children who are receiving the Free Early Education Entitlement (three and four year olds). This is for parents who are working. There are also two year old children whose parents are on means tested benefits or on a low income who can receive the government funding. These are called Eligible Two Year Olds, and in areas of deprivation there tend to be more two year olds who are eligible. The Eligible Two Year Olds are funded at £5 40 per child per hour by the government, paid through Bristol City Council. These payments are based on a national funding formula which is why the rate varies from area to area of England.

**Ofsted** **Childcare Registration**  
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You don't have to own your house to register. You can register to work from a rented property – as long as this is somewhere you live rather than somewhere you rent for the sole purpose of providing [childcare](#). Make sure you inform your landlord of your plans.



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