

The Local Offer

Name of Setting: Co-Childminders

My child has SEND. I would like to look around. What do I need to do?

Please contact us by phone or email, it is usually quieter after 5.30pm on a weekday or anytime during the weekend.

If you would like to visit, evenings and weekends are the best times for us to meet and get to know you and your child in a relaxing environment.

I am a childminder with an outstanding Ofsted grade and over 20 years of experience working with children. My daughter is graded good with several outstanding features.

We are open 47 weeks a year.

On your first visit you may prefer to come alone or with your child, you may visit with a partner, relative or friend. Your child may want to bring a favourite toy to play with.

We have a parent's handbook with information about our setting, our daily routine, policies and procedures which you may like to see either before your visit or take away to look at. It is important you read this to see how we work in our setting and promote strong links with parents.

You will have the opportunity to meet my daughter who is my co-childminder and my son, currently training to teach primary school children, who occasionally works as our assistant. My elder daughter will provide cover in an emergency.

How will my child and I be made to feel welcome and how will you get ready for my child coming?

We welcome the whole family to our setting and strive to ensure that individual needs are catered for.

Prior to starting we will discuss your child's individual needs, talk about interests, favourite toys, games, books, songs, favourite food and drink, special diets, routines, family and pets. We talk about anything your child dislikes or may fear. We record this on an 'All About Me' sheet together. This knowledge helps us prepare for your child's first days by creating an environment full of familiar and comforting things.

We ask you to fill a small box with items from home, a favourite toy, book and photographs which gives reassurance of home. Children are welcome to bring a favourite toy and comforter.

We regard each child as an individual and focus on their strengths and interests; we value all that you tell us about your child. We work closely with all parents in partnership.

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We have a lovely photo book showing what we do in our setting which you may like to borrow to share with your child.

We talk about your child's specific medical needs where appropriate and listen to any concerns you may have.

We offer flexible settling in periods when your child will meet the other children in our care. We build on settling in periods until your child is happy, confident and comfortable with us.

Working with a co childminder means that during settling in periods we are able to give one to one attention.

Your child will have their own key person, either me or my daughter. The key person is your first point of contact and will be primarily responsible for child's learning and development. Planning, observing and recording what they have done in their learning journey. Liaising with you to ensure your child is happy, safe and secure

How accessible are your premises?

We provide childcare in a homely setting.

A small step to the entrance of the property and onto the patio and lawn may be challenge for access specifically to wheelchair users but could be overcome by the provision of ramps.

A small wall encloses a flat patio with two shallow steps leading to the lawn.

The garden is fully enclosed.

We do not have a downstairs toilet or a stair lift.

Babies sleep in a travel cot upstairs.

Children play in the living room and outdoors on the lawn and patio. We spend a large amount of time outdoors at home and in the community.

We take a 10 minute walk to pre-school and school every day.

Working with a co childminder ensures your child has one to one time.

How will you keep my child safe?

Keeping your child safe, physically and emotionally is our priority. We will keep your child safe from any kind of physical harm and help build your child's confidence and self-esteem. We are responsible for the safety and security of your child while in our care as part of our Ofsted registration.

We have wide range policies for Safeguarding children including Child Protection, Medication, Sickness and Illness, Health and Safety, Equal Opportunities, Behaviour

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management. Use of mobile phones and cameras which enable us to safeguard your child.

I have a DBS (formerly CRB), My two daughters and son have DBS's

I, my daughter and my son all have current paediatric first aid certificates which we renew every 3 years. We refresh our knowledge 3 times a year.

Medication is stored securely; if medication is required you are asked to give written permission and sign our medication book daily. Accidents, incidents and pre-existing injuries are recorded.

We carry out risk assessments for our home, garden and outings, these are updated regularly as an ongoing process and when a new child joins us. We safety check resources and equipment daily.

We have simple house rules written with the children, which we share with new families and children.

Positive behaviour is praised.

We have linked smoke detectors, carbon monoxide detectors and carry out monthly evacuation drills.

We have followed Child protection courses.

We have followed Food Hygiene courses.

We working in partnership with parents and ask for written permissions to be given to be given by parents.

How will you communicate with me what my child has done, enjoyed and learnt?

We believe it is important that parents share their child's day.

We make time to talk to you when you collect your child, speak to you on the phone or meet at a mutually convenient time to chat informally.

We also communicate by text and email.

We believe communication should be two-way and we encourage you to talk about your child's experiences at home so we can build upon them and extend their learning. For example a child from a farming family may want to share different events throughout the year which we can develop through play.

We are happy to provide a daily diary if you feel this is appropriate.

We have a simple planning board which show what activities and experiences we have

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planned for the coming week.

We celebrate achievements, however small and will always tell you about special milestones or exciting things we have done.

Each child has their own learning journey which is sent home termly but we are happy to share it with you at any time. Their folders show how your child is developing and experiences enjoyed. They include a chart to track progress. We welcome your comments in your child's folder.

Each child also has a scrapbook full of photos to show what experiences they have enjoyed.

How do you work with other professionals?

We have strong links with Asfordby pre-school and Captains Close primary school.

In partnership with parents, we are happy to liaise with other professionals/ outside agencies who may be involved with your child.

We share any concerns with you as parents and after an initial discussion and with you we are happy to speak to other professionals for advice and guidance.

We liaise with other professionals to help support your child's learning and development needs.

What training have you /your staff had in SEND?

I have been childminding for over 20 years and qualified as a primary school teacher before I started a career in childminding.

We continually strive to improve our knowledge by reading and attending courses such as First Aid, Safeguarding, ECAT.

We update ourselves monthly from Leicestershire County Council Early Years, Ofsted updates, Leicestershire Local Safeguarding Board.

We attend support meetings for childcare providers.

We read extensively to ensure we give the best provision possible for your child.

We are members of PACEY (Professional Association of Childcare and Early Years) and use their factsheets and videos extensively.

We have undertaken PACEY courses in: Raising Developmental Concerns with Parents; Expectations of Behaviour; Supporting Children's Emotional Wellbeing; Supporting Child with Speech, Language and Language Needs and An Introduction to Children Diagnosed with Spectrum Autism Disorder.

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We are happy to access specific training to benefit the needs of your child and develop our knowledge.

We are happy to access training by the medical profession if required to provide the best care for your child.

How will you adapt play opportunities for my child?

We will discuss with you the individual needs of your child and ensure that we are well prepared by risk assessing and adapting our home to ensure a safe and stimulating environment in which your child can play safely and explore.

We will work with you to identify specialist equipment/toys that would be beneficial to your child.

We use EYFS Outcomes to help plan for each child's individual development stage rather than age as all children develop at different rates.

We believe in child led play where we can support and develop your child's individual interests.

We believe that being outdoors is very important for learning and that children's learn by exploring.

We aim to provide an inclusive, stimulating and challenging environment with places to relax and rest.

We provide a variety of sensory experiences to stimulate and interest your child from natural materials, sensory baskets, homemade sensory experiences, planting and growing our own sensory baskets outdoors.

How will you get ready for my child going to his/her new room/ school?

We work closely with a local Pre-school and School.

We aim to spend a morning each term in pre-school which helps us to become familiar with their routines which assists us in preparing our children. This ensures that we had a consistent approach and helps make the move smooth for each individual child without a dip in learning.

We talk about what happens at school and pre-school, share books, stories, and play.

We share photographs of pre-school and school to aid familiarity.

We go to pre-school and school for picks ups most days so your child will become familiar with the routine, staff and building which help to develop confidence.

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With your permission we share your child's learning journeys with pre-school and help your child get to know their key person. We talk to key person at the beginning and end of each session. Each child will have a summary of development for their new school or pre-school.

We help each individual child to become independent.

We stay with your child at pre-school until they are happy and confident in staying by themselves. We will be available to go to pre-school if we are needed for any reason.

With your written permission we are happy for pre-school and school staff and their SEN coordinator to visit us to see your child in a familiar environment.

How will you and I know how my child is doing and how will you help me to support my child's learning?

When your child joins us we spend a short period of time establishing what your child can do, we use this as a starting point so we can see individual progress and record it on a tracking sheet (chart).

We continually observe and assess each child while we play, this helps us see what your child likes doing, what they can do and how we can develop their learning by thinking of what they can do next. We give each child small achievable steps. We plan around child's needs, strengths and interests. We continually work with parents by sharing what we plan to do next and include parent's ideas. Working together is beneficial in promote learning and support.

We update our tracking termly, this shows the progress your child is making and helps identify areas where your child may need support.

We provide summaries of your child's development termly.

We meet together termly to discuss how we can work together to support your child's development. We like parents to be involved in each child's learning journey, sharing what your child has experienced at home, new and developing interests and discussing how we can work together on your child's next step.

We will always discuss any development progression concerns we have.

We produce a termly newsletter to keep you informed of our plans.

We write a 2 year development check jointly with parents to show progression. This may be shared with health visitors and other professionals who care for your child. This is important for early intervention to be implemented if necessary.

We follow individual education and support plans that are written by other professionals involved in the care of your child.

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We are able to offer the government funded 15 hours free early years education places to eligible 2, and all 3 and 4 year olds.

We offer you family orientated childcare in a homely environment, our priority is for your child to be safe and happy in our care whilst developing at their own rate to achieve their full potential. To do this it is essential we work closely with you as parents in partnership and value your input.

We welcome any questions you may have and any suggestions you would like to offer.

‘Each child is unique and has individual needs. They learn at different rates and reach milestones at different times and this process continues throughout lifelong learning.’