

The Information Commissioners Office (I.C.O)

Who are they?

The UK's Independent Authority set up to uphold information rights in the public interest, promoting openness by public bodies and data privacy for individuals.

What has this to do with Childcare providers?

The Data Protection Act 1998 requires every data controller (eg organisation, sole trader) who is processing personal information to register with the ICO, unless they are exempt. Register entries have to be renewed annually

You are classed as a 'data controller' if you are processing personal information electronically, for the provision of childcare. Personal information can be information on a child's health, behaviour or development and includes photographs.

What do I need to do?

Go on the ICO website: <https://ico.org.uk>.

Under the heading 'information for organisations' there is a link to their quick self-assessment to ascertain if you need to register. For queries about registration email registration@ico.org.uk or contact 03031231113

There is also a "frequently Asked Questions" specially aimed at childminders.

How much will it cost?

£35 per year.

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