

Thinking Ahead?

Childcare/Childminding

Produced by
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Information and Guidance Team
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Learner Services

What is childcare?

Anyone who looks after one or more children under the age of 8 years in England or under the age of 12 years in Wales, to whom they are not related, on domestic premises, for reward, and for a total of more than two hours in any day must register as a childminder.

- **Early year's childminder:** cares for children from birth to 31 August following their fifth birthday. These childminders are registered on the Early Years Register.
- **Later year's childminder:** care for children over the age of five? They are registered on the compulsory and/or voluntary part of the Childcare Register.

Where do they work?

Childminding offers care for young children. They offer a home-from-home childcare setting, looking after small groups of children of different ages and from different families.

Nursery Assistants work in public settings such as crèches, nurseries, workplace nurseries, normally with a fee attached.

What skills and personal qualities do they need?

The skills and personal qualities needed include:

- Excellent communication skills
- The ability to engage with young children
- Record keeping skills
- Maths skills, to do simple financial calculations

How do I become a childminder/nursery assistant?

CHILDMINDER

To become a childminder in Manchester look on the Manchester City Council website www.manchester.gov.uk/childminder. (If you live in another Authority eg Stockport, look on their website.)

You must register with Ofsted or a childminder agency if you want to be paid to look after children under 8 for more than 2 hours a day in England.

You don't need to do anything if [you're exempt](#) from registering.

You must apply to:

- the Early Years Register to only look after children aged 5 and under
- the Childcare Register to only look after children aged 5 to 7
- both registers to look after children of any age under 8

The Early Years Register is for children from birth up to the 31 August after their fifth birthday. You must be on the Childcare Register to look after children after that, up to their eighth birthday.

NURSERY ASSISTANT

You might start out as a student or nursery assistant whilst you work towards your level 2 qualification. Some nurseries may offer the opportunity to complete an [apprenticeship](#) and this can be a great first step.

A nursery must ensure that all staff receives induction training to help them understand their roles and responsibilities. When you start work at a nursery your training will include information about emergency evacuation procedures, safeguarding, child protection, the nursery's equal opportunities policy, and health and safety issues.

A Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check is essential to work as a nursery assistant or childminder.

Where can I study?

NURSERY ASSISTANT

MAES (www.manchester.gov.uk/adulted)

Working in Early Years Setting Level 1 Award
Creative Craft for Early Years Workers (non accredited)

Manchester College: Tel: 0333 322 2444 (www.tmc.ac.uk)

Variety of courses, including:
Caring for Children Level 1 (16-18)
Introducing Caring for Children and Young People L2 Certificate
Introduction to Early Years Education and Care L2 Certificate

Salford College: Tel: 0161 631 5000 (www.salford-col.ac.uk)

Early Years Care and Education (18-18)
Access to Professions in Childcare (including Children's Social Work)
Early Years Childhood Studies Foundation Degree

Trafford College: Tel: 0161 886 7070 (www.trafford.ac.uk)

Advanced Apprenticeship in Early Years Educator L3
L3 BTEC Extended National Diploma in Children's Play, Learning and Development
L2 Certificate for the Children and Young People's Workforce
L3 Diploma in Children's Learning and Development (Early Years Educator)

Bury College: Tel: 0161 280 8280 (www.burycollege.ac.uk)

NCFE CACHE L1 Award/Certificate/Diploma in Caring for Children
NCFE CACHE L2 Certificate in an Introduction to Early Years Education and Care
NCFE CACHE L3 Diploma in Childcare and Education Early Years Educator (EYE)
Apprenticeship:
Playwork Level 2 and 3 Apprenticeship
Early Years Educator Level 3 Apprenticeship
Visit the website as there are other courses related to childcare/childhood.

Stockport College: Tel: 0300 300 0090 (www.stockport.ac.uk)

Foundation Degree Early Years Practice

Foundation Degree Working with Children and Young People

Childhood Studies BA Hons

What are the job prospects for Childminders/Nursery Assistants

Childcare is a growing area of work and there is a demand for qualified workers.

(Source - www.economicmodelling.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/Greater-Manchester-LEP-Final)

OTHER SOURCES OF INFORMATION

www.gov.uk/register-childminder

www.childcare.co.uk

www.uk.care.com

www.pacey.org.uk

www.childminders.org

www.nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk

You are advised to check material facts as although every effort has been made to ensure that information given is up to date we are aware that information is subject to change. The website links are used to provide further information and are not intended to signify that MAES endorses such websites and their content.