

Thinking Ahead?

Childcare/Childminding

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Learner Services

What do they do?

A childminder is a person who works with children for more than 2 hours a day in their own home for reward. In England, childminders are registered with Ofsted. Registration with the governing body means childminders attain a certain level of skills, knowledge and competency to fulfil their many roles. Legal requirements for childminders - all childminders must carry public liability insurance and class 1 business insurance to drive with childminded children in their cars. They must have completed an introductory training course and update paediatric first aid training every 3 years. All childminders in England must comply with the requirements of the EYFS 2012 and Childcare Register 2012, local planning, fire and food hygiene laws, health and safety legislation and the Equality Act 2010.

Skills required

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 to become a childminder

CHILDMINDER

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

Anyone in who looks after one or more children under the age of 8 years in 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.

As a registered childminder you will:

- Offer the children you care for a happy and inspirational home-based professional care and learning environment.
- See the children that you care for grow and develop and care for your own children at the same time, if you have a family.
- Work in your home, choosing the hours you work and the services you provide in a career where no two days are the same.
- Meet other childcare professionals in your area and get to know your local community, joining many thousands of childminders providing high-quality professional childcare and early education

Information about the types of childcare that are exempt from registration in England is available [from Ofsted](#).

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.

Skills required

You'll need:

- sensitivity and understanding
- patience and the ability to remain calm in stressful situations
- the ability to work well with others
- to be flexible and open to change
- the ability to accept criticism and work well under pressure
- excellent verbal communication skills
- customer service skills
- thinking and reasoning skills
- able to use a computer terminal or hand-held device may be beneficial for this job.

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

Where can I study

Childcare Courses and Maths and English (entry level up to GCSE) are offered at the Colleges listed below. Entry requirements for most course is GCSE or Level 2 in Maths and English.

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

Level 1 Award Working in Early Years Settings (NCFE CACHE)

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

L1 Caring for Children (16-18)

L2 Introducing Caring for Children and Young People Certificate

L2 Introduction to Early Years Education and Care Certificate

L3 Diploma for the Early years Workforce (Early Years Educator)

BA in Childhood and Youth Studies (Top Up) (UCAS:T16Y)

Tameside College: 0161 908 6600 (www.tameside.ac.uk)

L1 Award in Introduction to Employment in Childcare

L2 Certificate in Introduction to Early Years Education

L3 Diploma in Childcare and Education

L3 Certificate in Childcare and Education

Salford College: Tel: 0161 631 5000 (www.salfordcc.ac.uk)

Early Years Care and Education (16-18)

Access to Professions in Childhood studies including Social Work

Early Years Childhood Studies Foundation Degree

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

L3 Advanced Apprenticeship in Early Years Educator

L3 BTEC Extended National Diploma in Children's Play, Learning and Development

L4 Early Years Advanced Practitioner

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:

There are various apprenticeships and courses available at Bury College, so visit the website for more information

Stockport College: Tel: 0300 300 0090/0161 296 5000 (www.stockport.ac.uk)

Certificate in Caring for Children (CACHE) L1

Certificate in an Introduction to Early Years Education and Care (CACHE) L2

Diploma in Children, Care, Learning and Education (Early Years) L3

Foundation Degree Early Years Practice

BA Honours Childhood Studies

Job Prospects

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.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.