

# Becoming a Registered Childminder in Hartlepool



## What is a Childminder?

A Registered Childminder is someone who works in their own home caring for children under 8 for more than 2 hours per day for any kind of reward.

If you intend to care for children over the age of 8 then you can choose to be on the voluntary part of the Childcare Register.

This leaflet helps you decide if Childminding is for you and if it is what to do next.

## Is Childminding right for me?

If you:

- Enjoy caring for children
- Can provide a fun, stimulating and safe environment
- Want a flexible and rewarding career
- Can work in partnership with parents

Then YES Childminding might be right for you!



## What else should I think about?

You should also think about:

- If you would enjoy working in your own home
- If you want to be your own boss
- The effect it will have on your own family
- Could you provide activities which meet the individual needs of each child
- Do you feel able to respect the needs of children with different cultural and ethnic backgrounds.

If the answer is still YES then you are on your way to becoming a Registered Childminder in Hartlepool.

### Do I need to register?

If you intend to care for children under the age of 8 years for more than two hours a day for any kind of reward then YES you do need to register with OFSTED.

There are three parts to the register:

1. The Early Years Register
2. The Childcare Register
3. The Voluntary part of Childcare Register

If you intend to care for children aged 0—8 years you will be on the Early Years and Childcare Register.

If you intend to care for children aged 5—8 years you will be on the Childcare Register.

If you intend to care for children aged 8—17 years you can choose to be on the Voluntary Childcare Register.

### What support will I get?

Before you start the process you will attend a briefing where you will be given information about the registration process.

During the registration process you will be able to get support in completing the forms and prepare for your registration visit.

After you are registered you will get regular support from the Early Years and Childcare Officer until your first inspection, then you will be supported by the Early Years Quality Team.

In addition you will be able to access training through the Early Years and Childcare Training Programme.

### What do I do next?

You must book your place on the briefing session by returning the confirmation slip. At the briefing you will hear more about what it means to be a childminder, how to become registered and the support you will get.

Once you have decided to become a Childminder you will need to complete the 16 week '**Becoming a Hartlepool Childminder**' training course. This includes Paediatric First Aid, Safeguarding and Food Safety as well as workshops which will enable you to meet the requirements of registration and become a quality Childminder.

If you have any questions please contact

Sue Lewins  
Early Years and Childcare Officer



## Contacts

Sue Lewins  
Early Years and Childcare Officer  
The Link  
SureStart Children's Centre  
6—8 Lealholm Road  
Hartlepool  
TS25 1RS

Tel: 01429 242989

Fax: 01429 242999

Email: [sue.lewins@hartlepool.gov.uk](mailto:sue.lewins@hartlepool.gov.uk)

---

Families Information Service  
Central Library  
124 York Road  
Hartlepool  
TS25 9DE

Tel: 01429 284284

Email: [FIS@hartlepool.gov.uk](mailto:FIS@hartlepool.gov.uk)

Website: <http://hartlepool.fsd.org.uk>

**Sure Start**  
**Children's Centres**

