



pacey

Professional
Association for
Childcare and
Early Years

Do something
incredible,
become a
childminder.

Childminders are professional, compassionate and tenacious.

They do what they do because they are passionate about children's education and want to give them the best start in life. They are brave enough to run their own business, build their own curriculum and tackle any challenges.

Why work in childcare?

- The opportunity to **TEACH** a child something new and watching the 'twinkle' in their eyes when they understand, knowing how proud they feel.
- Seeing children **DEVELOP** from babies to young people. Giving the children you care for the opportunities both indoors and outdoors to develop their own interests and personalities.
- You will build up **RELATIONSHIPS** to help children feel secure. Watch them learn how to share and make friends, becoming independent so that they can do almost anything for themselves.

Why become a childminder?

- It's chance to earn money from doing something you're good at – run your own **BUSINESS** and care for your own family all at the same time.
- Looking after small groups of children of different ages and from different families, you'll find variety in your role as when you're working with small children, no two days will be the same.
- Childminding is a **DYNAMIC** and evolving career. Registered childminders are usually self-employed and their own boss. Many go on to expand their business and employ childminding assistants, growing their business.

Pre-registration

Online briefing

PACEY's short online briefing will give you all the information you need to help you decide if becoming a registered childminder is right for you. For just £5 you can explore what being a childminder in England involves and discover more about the training you need to get started.

Essential pre-registration training

As a registered childminder you'll have a huge impact on families, helping them manage their childcare needs as well as supporting parents in raising their children. At the same time, you'll be running your own small business, investing in your own personal development and, perhaps, managing staff, too.

It makes sense, therefore, to ensure that the training you undertake at the beginning of your career is the very best it can be. PACEY can support you will all of the below pre-registration training:



**Preparing to Work
in Home-based
Childcare course
(HBCA)**



First aid training



**Safeguarding
training**



**Food safety and
Hygiene training**

<https://www.pacey.org.uk/careers-in-childcare/childminders/becoming-a-childminder-in-england/>

Registration

If you want to be paid to look after children under 8 in England for more than two hours a day, you must register with Ofsted or with an approved Childminder Agency. Registration may take up to 12 weeks.

What happens next?

Once you've applied to be registered as a childminder, Ofsted will visit your setting to assess and approve your application for registration. This is called a pre-registration visit.

The inspector will usually tell you soon after the visit whether Ofsted is prepared to register you as a childminder.



Find out more about what is required of you to register as a childminder.



<https://www.pacey.org.uk/careers-in-childcare/childminders/becoming-a-childminder-in-england/>

Once you've registered

Congratulations! You're now able to begin your career as a registered childminder, providing high-quality childcare and education for children.

Ofsted registration requires you to hold appropriate public liability insurance (PLI) in place as soon as you are registered. PACEY's Practitioner insurance, arranged and administered by Morton Michel Ltd and underwritten by QBE UK Limited, is designed for childminders, and included in membership. Call us on 0300 003 0005 to get your PACEY membership.

Inspections

Childminders in England are registered and inspected by Ofsted. All childminders registered on Ofsted's Early Years Register are inspected against the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS).

New childminders are inspected within 30 months of their registration to ensure the quality of the care they are providing. Inspectors visit the childminder and check that their home is safe and secure.



 Find out more about what is involved in an Ofsted inspection.

<https://www.pacey.org.uk/careers-in-childcare/childminders/becoming-a-childminder-in-england/>

Hear from other childminders

“I love being a childminder for so many reasons. Its the little things that children do that melt my heart, putting their hands in mine , snuggling up to share a book, jumping in puddles together, the list is endless. Watching and helping the children grow and develop is a privilege and sharing special moments is just a joy.”

Belinda O’Hare
Childminder, Leeds

Annette Kingsley-Scott
Childminder, London

“The best part of being a childminder is nurturing and watching children as they grow, develop and flourish, knowing that I helped to enable each child’s development and celebrate their achievements”

“I absolutely love what I do and I truly believe caring for children is my vocation. I just wish I had realised this earlier in my life and not wasted many years in unfulfilling roles. Being trusted to care for the children and watching them develop and grow is an absolute privilege.”



Amanda Calloway,
Childminder, Wales
Winner of Childminder
of the Year, 2024

PACEY Memberships

Our memberships are designed to support early years providers and the incredible work they do.



Assistant

For childminding assistants and nursery workers



Practitioner

For registered childminders, and nannies



Manager

For nursery managers/ owners and their staff

With each membership tailored to your needs and including benefits centred around:



Insurance



Training



Advice



Products



Policy & Updates

Find out more about how PACEY and our memberships can support you and the incredible work you will be doing.

[Explore all PACEY memberships](#)



PACEY is the Professional Association for Childcare and Early Years

We are a charity dedicated to supporting everyone working in childcare and early years to provide high quality care and early learning for children and families. By choosing a childcarer who is a member of PACEY, you can be sure that they've made a commitment to their professionalism and the quality of childcare they provide.