

1 minute guide - Childminders Providing Overnight Care

What does the EYFS say about Childminders providing overnight care

3.56 'For childminders providing overnight care, the ratios set out above continue to apply and the childminder must always be able to hear the children (this may be via a monitor). Childminders are required to notify Ofsted or their CMA if they intend to provide overnight care

What should a Childminder do if they want to provide overnight care

Many parents/carers have to work overnight, and it can be hard to find a childminder who provides this service. Leaving children with a childminder overnight can be a very difficult thing for a paren/carers to do, so parents will need to take all necessary steps to make sure children are safe.

Overnight care details have been removed from Ofsted registration certificates (since Sept 2012) because all childminders can now offer an overnight service if they are registered as a childminder as long as they have:

- Informed Ofsted
- Public liability insurance to cover overnight care
- Suitable bedrooms, bedding etc for children to stay overnight
- A baby (noise) monitor in the bedroom or evidence of how they can always hear children through the night
- Written permission to work with an assistant (if relevant)
- A list of all those people living on the premises
- Clean bedding and towels
- Emergency contact details for parents and others in case they cannot be contacted - childminders should ask for at least 2 emergency contacts in addition to the child's parents
- CRB or DBS check for every person over 16 living or working on the premises overnight
- Risk assessed to help keep children safe

What information should you share with parents/carers

The childminder should discuss all aspects of overnight care arrangements with parents/carers including how they will ensure that the child is always within their sight and / or hearing to comply with EYFS requirement 3.56 (via a monitor will be fine).

Parents/carers should be shown or should ask to see:

- A copy of the childminder's Ofsted registration certificate
- Up-to-date paediatric first aid certificate
- CRB check or DBS disclosure
- Public liability insurance certificate
- Safeguarding and child protection procedures
- Complaints procedures
- Overnight care risk assessment

Note - if a child is cared for a continuous period of 28 days or more, they are regarded as a foster child and childminders are legally required to notify the local Social Services.



**City of
Doncaster
Council**