

Information for Ofsted Registered Childminders: Registration as a Food Business Operator

Childminders undertaking food business activities remain legally defined as food business operators and are therefore subject to food law, however the Food Standards Agency (FSA) will now accept Childminder registration with Ofsted for the purposes of registration under food law.

For new Childminder registrations made on or after 1 January 2014:

If the Ofsted registered Childminder intends to provide food as part of the childminding service, there is no need for the Childminder to register separately as a food business with the Local Authority. On behalf of the Childminder, Ofsted will inform the Local Authority as part of the government's commitment to reduce the burden on Childminder businesses.

The information given to Ofsted as part of the registration process will be used by Ofsted to register the Childminder as a food business with the Childminder's Local Authority. This ensures that Childminder's who provide food as part of their service will have their premises registered with their Local Authority Environmental Health Department, which is a legal requirement.

When registered as a food business a food safety inspection may be carried out by the Childminder's Local Authority. If an inspection is required, a Food Safety Officer (FSO) will contact the Childminder to arrange a suitable time to visit. The FSO will give advice and support about food hygiene and food safety.

A Childminder that provides food as part of their childminding service is responsible under food law for ensuring that food is prepared, stored and handled in compliance with the food hygiene regulations, including keeping a record of actions carried out to keep food safe. The Food Standards Agency (FSA) has produced a special pack called 'Safer Food, Better Business, for Childminder's' to support with this, and packs can be downloaded from the FSA website: <http://www.food.gov.uk/>

All enquiries regarding the above information, Food Safety training, and for further advice about a Childminder's responsibilities under food law, should be made to Doncaster Councils Environmental Health Department:

For more information contact:

Telephone: 01302 737560

Email: food.safety@doncaster.gov.uk

Website: www.doncaster.gov.uk

Information can be made available in other formats such as Braille or Audio Tape on request. If you know someone who may need this service, please contact a member of staff for more information or if you need any other help or advice.