

Choosing Child Care Checklist

Basic Information

The hours are suitable.
I can afford the fees.
Meals and snacks are appropriate and nutritious.
Transportation is available.
The group size and age groupings are acceptable.

The Environment

The setting is bright and cheerful.
The children are happy.
Staff members and children get along well.
There is a balanced daily schedule.
Children can take part in activities appropriate for their age.

Parental Involvement

Parents are involved in decision making.
Parents participate in some activities.
Parents have a chance to speak with staff when they drop-off and pick-up children.
Parents can visit unannounced any time their children are in care.

The Staff

They have training and experience with children.
Most have been in the program for at least one year.
Disciplinary methods are acceptable.
They are friendly and cooperative.
Staff members are responsive and supportive.
Children are treated as individuals.
Children are comforted when needed.
The environment is suitable and acceptable.
Safety precautions are established.
Different kinds of space are available for quiet play, active play, and play outdoors.
There are enough books, paints, blocks, musical toys, games, puzzles, etc...
Children can get things for themselves.

Overall Impression

References are provided.
People who have used this service speak well of it.
I would be happy here if I were a child.
I feel comfortable leaving my child here.