




Childcare Network

Choosing a quality child care program is one of the most important decisions you will make for your family. A good early childhood program will help your child learn new skills, develop socially and be prepared for school. Pay attention to your instincts and trust your ability to make the best decision.

The first step is to research your options and then you will be ready to make your choice.

We look forward to seeing you at Childcare Network soon!

What to look for... Basics		#2	#3
Is the school welcoming, friendly and positive?			
Is the program licensed? Is the license posted?			
What are the hours of operation?			
Do they have written policies and procedures regarding discipline, resolving conflicts, etc?			
Are there organized arrival and departure procedures?			
Are references and background checked and completed on all staff?			
Are there training requirements for teachers and are there ongoing professional development?			
Are the teachers certified in First Aid and CPR?			
Are the parents informed of illness, injury, behavior issues, biting, eating, etc.?			
Is there an emergency preparedness plan?			
Does the school encourage parents to drop in and visit at any time?			
Are there opportunities for parent involvement?			
Classroom Environment			
What is the child to teacher ratio?			
Do the children look happy; are they having fun and is it positive?			
Are the children involved in activities?			
Are there plenty of books and toys? Are they accessible to the children?			
Do the children appear to be well cared for?			
Is there space for the children to move freely?			
Is it a safe environment, clean, with no major safety problems?			
Is there child-sized furniture and is it in good condition?			
Are separate spaces available for different age groups?			
Are there pictures and children's artwork posted at the child's eye level?			
Is there a place for each child to keep their belongings?			
Do the staff and children follow appropriate hand washing procedures?			
Is the school able to dispense medication? If so, how often?			
Are medicines and cleaning products out of the children's reach?			

Teacher/Child Interaction

Do the teachers understand stages of early childhood development?			
How long have the teachers worked with children and with the company?			
Are the teachers kind and encouraging to the children?			
Is the teacher listening and talking with individual children?			
Is the teacher maintaining control of the class in a positive way?			
Are the children being assisted in solving their own problems through appropriate social skills?			
Do teachers use non-threatening methods of discipline (no physical or severe methods)?			
Do the teachers encourage and model good character and social skills?			

Programs & Curriculum

Is there a daily schedule of activities?			
Is there a lesson plan?			
Does the philosophy fit with the values you have for your child?			
Is there a curriculum and is it evident in the classroom?			
Does the curriculum prepare children for Kindergarten?			
Are there materials to support literacy (books, labels on shelves, etc)?			
Does the program include large group activities as well as small groups and individual play?			
Does the program provide language, science, math, blocks, dramatic play, art, music, and a quiet area?			
Is there a scheduled quiet time for the children to relax? Is nap time scheduled?			
Is there a planned meal routine, schedule and rotation of menus?			
Is the menu posted and are the meals nutritious?			
Are parents provided with a daily report about their child's day?			
Does the school handle children's allergies and special needs?			

Outdoors

Are the children provided with outdoor time each day?			
Is the outdoor area clean, safe and provide enough shade for the children?			
Is the area large enough for gross motor activities (trikes, balls, running)?			
Is the area fenced in?			
Is the playground equipment appropriate for the age group using that area?			
Is the area open so that the teacher can see all the children playing?			

Tuition & Fees

What are the rates per child and are these based on the age of the child?			
Are meals and snacks included or is there an additional fee?			
Are there any additional fees for registration, supplies, late payment, or additional programs?			
Is there a discount for siblings?			
Does the school accept vouchers and assistance programs when available?			

Schedule a Tour at a Childcare Network School Today!

Notes: _____

