

Registration of childminder agencies

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Ofsted's role

- Register applicants
- Inspect childcare providers regularly after registration
- Consider any information about childcare providers that suggest they may not be meeting requirements for registration
- Take enforcement action when necessary

How we register childminder agencies

The registered body

- The registration system uses the term 'registered body'.
- This covers both individuals and organisations, such as companies, partnerships and committees.
- The registered body has overall responsibility for the provision and is legally responsible for ensuring compliance with the requirements and regulations.

What must I do to register?

You must:

- complete an application form
- complete a suitability declaration and consent to checks form;
this must also be completed by:
 - anyone else who is involved in the application
 - provide Ofsted with a copy of your 'statement of purpose'
 - be familiar with the early years foundation stage before applying

DBS checks

You must:

- make sure each person connected with your application completes a Disclosure and Barring Service application form via <http://ofsteddbsapplication.co.uk>, prior to submitting their application
- make sure that each person arranges to have their identity documents checked, as set out in the guidance on Capitia's website
- make sure each person connected with your application has received their completed DBS check prior to applying to Ofsted. You can not apply without a DBS check.

Suitability of staff and other persons on the premises

- Ofsted does not carry out checks on your staff members, including the manager of your agency (if you have one).
- It is your responsibility to ensure that all staff members, and other people living or working on the premises, are suitable to work with children.
- The level of checks you need to carry out will depend on the role that the person is applying for.
- It is your responsibility also to carry out checks on the childminders you register – Ofsted will not do this for you.

Suitability of staff and other persons on the premises



You must ensure that you have robust recruitment and vetting procedures in place.

At the time of the registration visit and where applicable, the inspector may ask you to provide evidence that you are carrying out full checks on all staff, for example, enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service disclosures, references and qualifications.

The registration visit

The inspector will:

- use your statement of purpose to assess your suitability to register as an agency
- check how you intend to deliver the requirements for your childminders
- check your understanding of how childminders must deliver the requirements of the early years foundation stage
- check your arrangements for ensuring that the childminders you register are suitable and can deliver the EYFS
- check your arrangements for monitoring the quality of your childminders and their practice.

After the visit

Ofsted confirms:

- whether you are suitable to be registered
- whether there need to be any conditions or restrictions placed on your registration.

Questions about registering as a childminder agency

Ofsted on the web and on social media

www.gov.uk/ofsted

<http://reports.ofsted.gov.uk>

 www.linkedin.com/company/ofsted

 www.youtube.com/ofstednews

 www.slideshare.net/ofstednews

 www.twitter.com/ofstednews

