

Child Care Centre Visit Checklist

This checklist will help you look for important indicators of quality child care. Space is provided for you to note your observations when deciding which child care centre is right for your family.

Child Care Centre Name:

Phone:

Address:

Contact Name:

Provider/Child Relationships

Do the Educators:

Notes:

<input type="radio"/> Listen to children when they speak and respond with interest and respect?	
<input type="radio"/> Accept and value the children’s ideas and suggestions?	
<input type="radio"/> Set reasonable limits for behavior and respond to inappropriate behavior in a fair and consistent manner?	
<input type="radio"/> Respond with care and understanding to a child who may be fearful, shy, upset, hurt, or angry?	
<input type="radio"/> Encourage children to cooperate with each other, share and take turns?	
<input type="radio"/> Display a sense of humor?	
<input type="radio"/> Show flexibility in how they meet the varied needs of all children?	
<input type="radio"/> Initiate conversations with the children other than instructions, commands and announcements?	
<input type="radio"/> Encourage problem-solving?	
<input type="radio"/> Encourage independence?	
<input type="radio"/> Offer choices to the children?	
<input type="radio"/> Redirect children when there is conflict?	
<input type="radio"/> Bend down or kneel to speak to children at their own height?	
<input type="radio"/> Engage in conversation with each child?	
<input type="radio"/> Address children by name, including my child?	
<input type="radio"/> Speak to each other, children, and you, calmly and respectfully?	
<input type="radio"/> Supervise the space at all times?	

Daily Child Care Programs

Does the centre / facility:

Notes:

<input type="radio"/> Include structured activities as well as opportunities for open play?	
<input type="radio"/> Allow for both individual and group play?	
<input type="radio"/> Offer choice of activities?	
<input type="radio"/> Provide opportunities to explore the environment in different ways such as through music and movement dress up /pretend play, games, art, construction toys, and outdoor play?	
<input type="radio"/> Encourage children to cooperate with each other, share and take turns?	
<input type="radio"/> Have a consistent, yet flexible, schedule?	
<input type="radio"/> Follow routines for rest, mealtimes, etc. in a relaxed manner?	
<input type="radio"/> Not use television and video entertainment?	
<input type="radio"/> Actively monitor children when they are using computers?	
<input type="radio"/> Offer a variety of materials including blocks, dress-up, art and books?	
<input type="radio"/> Include children and families from a variety of cultures and backgrounds?	
<input type="radio"/> Provide drinks and snacks that are healthy and nutritious?	
<input type="radio"/> Involve children in preparing simple meals and snacks?	
<input type="radio"/> Support children to participate in basic life skills activities, e.g. washing hands, hanging up their own clothing, doing up zippers, etc.??	
Infant program (if applicable):	
<input type="radio"/> Set sleeping and eating schedules that reflect the individual needs of children?	
<input type="radio"/> Provide a sleeping area that is separate from the play area?	
<input type="radio"/> Provide a safe and nurturing environment where infants can explore their surroundings and interact with each other?	
<input type="radio"/> Include time for one-on-one interaction between	

The Physical Environment

Is the child care setting:

Notes:

<input type="radio"/> Safe (cupboards with cleaning supplies are locked, kitchen knives are out of reach, stairs are gated, etc.)? Are the materials and equipment clean, safe and in good repair?	
<input type="radio"/> Warm, inviting and appealing? Are there a variety of toys, activities and materials available?	
<input type="radio"/> Well lit, comfortable in temperature and child-sized furniture and equipment?	
<input type="radio"/> Organized and well-maintained?	
In the child care environment, I observed:	
<input type="radio"/> Natural light.	
<input type="radio"/> Enough space for a variety of different activities to be going on at the same time without interference.	
<input type="radio"/> Children's artwork displayed at their eye level.	
<input type="radio"/> Areas for both active and quiet play, play materials inside and outside, age and developmentally appropriate toys and materials.	
<input type="radio"/> A safe and accessible outdoor space for different activities.	
<input type="radio"/> A variety of safety precautions; fire extinguishers, stairway gates, smoke detectors, and electrical outlet covers.	