

Business Information Sheet
Number 4a: Childcare Business –
General Guidance

Thinking of setting up a childcare business in Harrow?

What to consider

Opening a new childcare provision is a big commitment. You need to consider and meet all the registration requirements to enable you to provide the highest quality of care for the children and their families.

For information, guidance and to find out what support is available can offer please contact the Development Team Manager, Early Intervention Services

Ofsted registration

(Ofsted: Office for Standards and Education, Children's Services and Skills)

Most childcare providers caring for children under eight must register with Ofsted unless the law states otherwise.

You will need to register with the following:

- **Early Years Register**
This register is for those who intend to care for children

from birth to the 31 August following their fifth birthday. It is also necessary to comply with the welfare, and learning and development requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. The Early Years Foundation Stage, which includes the Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage and the Practice Guidance for the Early Years Foundation Stage, is available from the Department for Education and Skills (DFES).

- **Compulsory part of the Childcare Register**
This is for those who intend to care for children aged five to seven years. For more information about on the requirements of the compulsory part of the Childcare Register contact Ofsted.
- **Voluntary part of the Childcare Register**
You can choose to register on the voluntary part of the Childcare Register if you intend to do the following: care for children aged between eight and 17; wholly or mainly on premises other than their own home; for a continuous period of at least two hours in any one day or for a period of less than two hours where the childcare provided is part of arrangements that start or end before or after normal

school hours or you intend to provide care such as activity-based provision for children aged under eight, which does not require compulsory registration under the Childcare Act 2006, for a period of less than two hours where the childcare provided is part of arrangements that start or end before or after normal school hours.

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Find more about registration and exemptions by contacting Ofsted.

For further information

Visit the Harrow Council web site:

http://www.harrow.gov.uk/info/200016/childcare/1519/thinking_of_setting_up_a_childcare_business_in_harrow/1