

Welcome!

We are pleased to welcome you as a childminder in Nottinghamshire. Hopefully we can help you on your new exciting journey.

Early Education is far more than childcare and aims to prepare young children to be ready to continue to learn when they enter statutory education. Securing a successful start for our youngest children, and particularly those from disadvantage backgrounds is crucial.

We feel that as someone who is new to childminding, it is important that you have a good support network around you. If you haven't already found any local groups, pop down to your local children's centre and ask what they have on offer. Have a look around your community to see if there are any groups you can go along to, and chat with other childminders in your area. It is good to talk with other childminders who have years of experience and who can answer your many questions you may have.

As a local authority we are also here to support you the best we can. You can look on Nottinghamshire.gov.uk to see what childcare training opportunities there are. We also offer networks such as safer settings to talk to others about safeguarding concerns, provider networks where you can receive local and national information about any updates, and many other courses to extend your knowledge of supporting children in your care.

You can also look on Notts Help Yourself for information and resources as a practitioner, and the Local Offer to find information and groups regarding SEND (Special educational needs and disabilities). You can also signpost parents to SEND groups that they may find supportive if they bring a child to you who has special needs.

Are you thinking of caring for children who will be eligible for early years funding? Then in order to be able to claim this funding you will need to contact the Early Childhood Service team on 0115 977 2510, and sign up to Nottinghamshire's provider agreement. We also offer Portal workshops from time to time, to meet with the team and ask any questions you may have. You can find these on Nottinghamshire.gov.uk on childcare training, so keep checking for new dates. Once you are registered on the portal we advise you keep checking the portal weekly to ensure you receive important messages, even if you don't have any funded children for the term.

One of the Early Years team will be in touch to offer support around funded places, completing children's development files, knowing who to contact for additional support, the EYFS, signposting you to other relevant agencies in Nottinghamshire and much more. Further support can then be offered via email, telephone or contact visits as you go along on your journey.

Most importantly we want you to enjoy your childminding journey, and have fun with the children who come into your home. Children learn through play, and we're sure they will have lots of fun with you!

If you have any questions once you begin childminding, and are not sure where to go, you can email the general childhood email at earlychildhoodservices@nottscc.gov.uk
You can also find information for families on the Family Information Services Facebook page.