

Become a registered childminder in Carmarthenshire



"She makes me feel happy when mums not there"

Rhian Jones, 2 years old





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Why become a registered childminder?

Do you enjoy working with children?

Do you want to be your own boss?

Do you want to work from home?

If you've answered yes to the above, registered childminding could be your number one career choice!

Childminding is a highly rewarding career for those who enjoy working with children and are passionate about giving children the best start in life. Childminding is an ideal career for people who want a job that will fit in with their family commitments whilst making a real difference to other families by giving parents the opportunity to return to work, training or education.

Registered childminders provide a friendly, safe and stimulating environment for children, helping them develop and grow. Although every day as a childminder will vary a standard day might include:

- taking children outdoors in the local community to parks, play groups, libraries or to meet other childminders or school pick-ups.
- providing creative, exciting and stimulating learning activities for children.
- support children's learning by embracing the principles of the Foundation Phase in Wales.

As a registered childminder you will:

- develop respect of parents and, more importantly, the children in your care, some of whom may be with you for many years
- work from home, choosing your own hours of work and the services you provide
- care for your own children at the same time
- get involved in your local community
- set your own fees which you agree with parents



Why childminding?

As a registered childminder you will make a positive difference in several ways. Some parents prefer their children to be cared for in a more natural home environment.



Childminding can develop into a long and rewarding career, developing your own skills and your own business whilst supporting children, their families and working as part of your local community.

Childminders make a valuable contribution to a child's learning and development. Watching children in your care learn or accomplish something new for the first time is one of the greatest things about being a childminder.

There will be training opportunities and courses to help you develop your knowledge and skills and meet fellow childminders to share ideas and information.

Some childminders specialise in a specific area, such as caring for disabled or vulnerable children, making a real contribution to their lives and providing valuable support for their families who may struggle to find suitable childcare.

“All the children, and their parents, are an extended part of our family”

Christine Pask, registered childminder, Carmarthenshire

Becoming registered

If you provide childcare for children under 8, for more than two hours a day and for payment you are required by law to register with the Care and Social Services Inspectorate Wales (CSSIW).

Before you are able to register, you will need to complete a compulsory home-based childcare course, first aid training, complete a CSSIW application, complete policies and procedures and show that you can meet required set standards.



All applications will undergo a Disclosure and Barring Service Check (DBS) which has replaced the CRB check, and will have their home inspected to make sure it is safe and suitable for the care of children. If you live in rented accommodation, you will need written permission from your landlord.

CSSIW will set a maximum number of children that you are able to care for at any one time, up to a maximum of six children under 8, of which is usually no more than three may be under school age.

These numbers will include your own children if you have any. You will also receive inspections from the CSSIW to make sure that you are continuing to meet all the necessary standards and regulations.

This demonstrates to parents that registered childminders offer safe and professional care for their children.

The Carmarthenshire Children's Partnership provides support to help people start up a childminding business.

They provide on-going guidance, one-to-one advice, support and mentoring, to help you with the CSSIW registration, as well as providing a wide variety of training courses, and keeping childminders updated with the latest information.

You may be entitled to a start up grant which will include:

- Public Liability Insurance for one year
- Necessary training
- A Business package which will help you set up your own childminding service



Contacts and other sources of information

For more information or support with becoming a registered childminder please contact:

Childminder Development Officer

Children's Partnership Carmarthenshire

Tel: **01267 246555**

Web: ChildrenInfo@Carmarthenshire.gov.uk

Care and Social Services Inspectorate Wales (CSSIW)

The Care and Social Services Inspectorate Wales (CSSIW) is the national body responsible for registering and inspecting childminders in Wales

Tel: **01443 848450**

Web: www.cssiw.org.uk

Family Information Service Carmarthenshire

Family Information Service (FIS) will hold information about registered childminders, nannies and nurseries within the area.

Tel: **01267 246555**

Web: www.fis.carmarthenshire.gov.uk

FIS Text Service: Start your message with **Children** and send to **07786 202747**

