



# JOB of the Week



**Job name:** Childminder

**Job description:** A Childminder provides care for children from the age of 4 months to 12 or 13 years to those parents who work and cannot care for their own children

**Tasks you will undertake in the job:** As a Childminder, you'll:

- provide inspirational learning activities
- offer free play activities, both indoors and outside
- plan, prepare and serve meals
- change nappies and make up bottles for babies
- take children on outings
- take older children to and from playgroup or school
- work with other local childcare professionals to support children's learning and development
- AND
- plan, provide and take part in play based activities that stimulate and support children's intellectual, physical, social, emotional and language development.
- Listening to, encouraging, enabling, stimulating and ensuring the safe keeping of the children
- Provision of refreshments, encouraging healthy eating and promoting a healthy lifestyle

**Benefits and limitations of self-employment:**

Many Childminders are self-employed, they work for themselves and not a company. This means they have to find their own clients / customers and manage their own accounts including taxes and insurance costs. There are many benefits to working on your own and for yourself but challenges too. To find out if this is a route you could be confident in, visit the following sites:

<https://www.prospects.ac.uk/jobs-and-work-experience/self-employment/is-self-employment-right-for-you>

<https://www.gov.uk/working-for-yourself>

<https://www.simplybusiness.co.uk/knowledge/articles/2021/06/going-self-employed-in-the-uk-a-self-employment-guide/>

**Skills required for this job (core competencies):**

Communication	Resilience	Organisation	Teamwork
Problem Solving	Initiative	Creativity	Digital literacy

**Sectors in which Childminders would normally work:**

You could work from home. Your working environment may be physically and emotionally demanding and outdoors some of the time. With experience you could expand your business and take on a childcare assistant. You could also become a network co-ordinator, supporting other local childminders. With further training you could become a tutor on childminding courses. You could also move into a related job like nursery worker, playworker, community play leader or teaching assistant.

**Salary:** Childminders are typically paid a starting wage of £15 600, this depends on the number of children in the setting and the current rates in the local area.



**Working hours:** Working hours depend on the needs of the client (working parents). Childminders can work from 7 am to 7 pm by arrangement and further hours as per demand (including evenings and weekends). Childminders are usually self employed.

**Qualifications to become a Childminder:** You can get into this job by: registering with a Childminder Agency and registering with Ofsted

#### Other Routes

There are introduction to childminding briefings that cover everything you need to prepare to register as a childminder. Your local council can give you information on where to find one. The aim is to make sure that you understand completely what is involved before making a decision about whether it's the right career for you.

#### Registration

If you want to care for children under 8 for more than 2 hours a day, you'll need to register with one of the following: Ofsted AND / OR a Childminder Agency (CMA)

For this, you'll usually need a home-based childcare course that covers the Early Years Foundation Stage framework; a paediatric first aid course; child protection training and a food safety qualification

You may have to do a basic skills test to show that you have the minimum standard of English and maths needed to support the educational development of children in your care. You'll also need to pass an assessment of your home and any equipment you will use.

**Essential skills you need to show:** To succeed as a Childminder, the following personal skills and attributes would give you an advantage:

- sensitivity and understanding
- patience and the ability to remain calm in stressful situations
- the ability to work well with others
- to be flexible and open to change
- the ability to accept criticism and work well under pressure
- excellent verbal communication skills
- customer service skills
- the ability to understand people's reactions
- interest in helping children develop and grow, exploring and learning about the world around them

**This job in the future:** The workforce is projected to grow by 11.6%, creating 18 300 jobs; in the same period, 57% of the workforce is likely to retire, creating 90 100 job opportunities.

[www.icould.com](http://www.icould.com)

[www.successatschool.org](http://www.successatschool.org)

[www.nationalcareers.service.gov.uk](http://www.nationalcareers.service.gov.uk)

[www.prospects.ac.uk/jobs-and-work-experience/job-sectors](http://www.prospects.ac.uk/jobs-and-work-experience/job-sectors)

[www.ucas.com/careers-advice](http://www.ucas.com/careers-advice)

[www.kudos/casaid.co.uk/#/](http://www.kudos/casaid.co.uk/#/) (you all have a log on for this service)

[www.careersbox.co.uk](http://www.careersbox.co.uk) (careers videos)

Helpful sites for careers information  
GAT careers links

<http://airhead.io/public/launchpads/XqbuOMJgb0OfqvMPCykcZA>

