



Licensed Home Child Care Information

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1. How many children can a home child care provider care for?

A home child care provider with a licensed agency can care for a maximum of 6 children under the age of 13.

A home child care provider not with a licensed agency can care for a maximum of 5 children under the age of 13.

All home child care providers cannot care for more than two children under the age of two years old.

2. Does a provider have to count their own children?

Yes. All home child care providers must count their own children under the age of 6.

3. Can a home child care provider care for more children if another adult is present?

No. The maximum number of children applies regardless of the number of adults in the home.

4. What happens if my provider is ill or on vacation?

For licensed home child care providers, the licensing agency may arrange for back up care for your child during your providers illness or vacation period.

5. Do providers with an agency have to have a Criminal Reference Check?

Yes. Providers and each adult in the home must have a Criminal Reference Check and Vulnerable Sector Screening prior to caring for children.

6. Do all people looking after children in their homes have to be licensed?

No, many people care for children without being a part of the licensed system. If you choose to use an independent caregiver you will need to monitor the care yourself. There will not be any monitoring by an outside agency. The only law that covers independent people caring for children in their own home pertains to the number of children cared for. A person may not care for more than 5 children at any one time.

7. How do agencies help ensure a home provider will provide quality care?

Licensed agencies support providers by ensuring that they are in compliance with the Ministry of Education's standards. Caregivers are screened, approved and monitored by people called home visitors. Home visitors complete regular unscheduled visits to all homes to ensure the agency standards are being maintained. Providers have access to various training, workshops and the ongoing support of Registered Early Childhood Educators.

8. What is a home visitor and what do they do?

Home visitors have training in early childhood education, child development and/or family studies. They check that the home is safe for children before children are enrolled and check in routinely to make sure caregivers are following the provincial requirements and the agency's policies and procedures.

They may support providers by:

- Planning activities for children at different stages of their development.
- Giving advice about nutritious meal planning.
- Helping choose toys and equipment that are safe and suitable for the children.

The home visitor also helps families find an agency caregiver that meets the needs of the child and family.

9. How do I go about finding a home child care provider?

Contact one of the licensing agencies for more information.

<p>Today's Family 905-574-9344 ext. 112 childcare@todaysfamily.ca</p>	<p>Wee Watch Child Care Galbraith 905-561-0008 hamiltoneast@weewatch.com</p>	<p>Wee Watch Child Care Golfwood 905-574-5409 hamiltonwest@weewatch.com</p>
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