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 six 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 types of supports and training will the licensing agency provide?

Licensed agencies support providers by ensuring that they are in compliance with the Ministry of Education’s standards.

Providers have access to various training, workshops and the ongoing support of Registered Early Childhood Educators. In addition, providers will have regular home visits from an agency staff member to assist in meeting requirements and to support the day to day operations of their home child care.

Providers are also given the opportunity to attend workshops and evening meetings where they can meet other providers in their area.

Some agencies provide child care equipment and resources to assist providers in starting up their home child care business.

5. How often will a home visitor visit my home?

A home visitor from the agency will visit your home at minimum once per month.

6. What happens if I’m sick or go on vacation?

The licensed agency may provide backup coverage for the children in your care for times you require off for illness or vacation.

7. How do I go about becoming “licensed”?

In Ontario, the agency is licensed NOT the provider. Licensed home child care agencies are always looking for people who would like to care for children in their own homes. Contact one of the licensed agencies for more information.