Gwasanaeth Gwybodaeth i Deuluoe

Voluntary Approval Scheme

By using a homebased childcare provider who is approved under this scheme parents can be reassured that the person being employed has met the minimum requirements, including an enhanced Criminal Records Bureau check. The scheme also provides confirmation that the person holds a recently acquired first aid certificate and a suitable childcare qualification (National Framework of Accredited Qualifications for Early Years, Childcare and Playwork level 2 or higher). Using an approved homebased childcarer also means that you may be eligible to claim ttioq [illegible]

If you know who you want to provide your childcare

Finding an approved homebased childcare provider

Other things you should know

Questions (continued)

- What do you think are the qualities needed to be a good nanny?
- Describe how you update parents on the childrens' development / achievements.
- How many days sick leave have you had in the past year?
- Have you got a partner? (If it is a live in position – discuss arrangements for visiting)
- What sort of activities would you do with my children?
- Where would you take my children on outings?
- Are you a smoker?
- How would you describe a typical day?
- What experience do you have of preparing bottles/weaning/potty training/disciplining children/ preparing for school?
- Can you give an example of unacceptable behaviour and explain how you would deal with this? (Explore rules and expectations of behaviour management)
- What would you do in an emergency?
- When did you last update your first aid training? Have you ever had to use it?
- What type of food would you cook for our children?
- Would you consider becoming an approved homebased childcare provider?
- Will you be working for other families?
  (Always check references, photographic identification, criminal records bureau checks, first aid certificates, driving licence, qualification certificates)

Employing a Babysitter?

A babysitter should only be employed for ad-hoc infrequent care of your children, for childcare which is required on a more regular basis please see the Voluntary Approval Scheme and Employing a Nanny sections.

Other Considerations

The NSPCC recommends that you only employ babysitters over 16 years old, as anyone younger than 16 cannot be charged with neglect or ill treatment of the children in their care, meaning that if concerns arise you could be charged with neglect.

- Listen to your children. If they are not happy with your choice, find someone else.
- Use a registered childminder or an approved homebased childcare provider as they will have undertaken a Criminal Records Bureau Check, have first aid qualifications and have potentially more experience than non-registered candidates.
- Contact the Family Information Service on 08000 323339 for a list of childminders or approved homebased childcare providers who provide babysitting services in your area.

Checklist

Make sure that you have checked the babysitter's references by calling them personally.

Ensure you have enough time before leaving so that you can show your babysitter around and inform them of house rules (e.g. where the food/nappies/plasters are kept and let them know the childrens' routines)

Always let your children know that a babysitter is coming and what you expect from the babysitter and from them.

Ensure that the babysitter knows where you are going and has a contact number (mobile and landline). If possible leave the number of an emergency contact who can come quickly if extra help is needed.

Agree the length of time that you will be absent (overestimate if necessary).

Make sure that you have contact details for the babysitter should your children be ill/ upset after you return and you require some additional information.