

What will it cost?

Paying for childcare can take a big chunk out of your household income. However, don't rule out any options until you've worked out what financial help is available to you. Also take into account the benefits you may be able to claim.

▶ Tax Credits **0845 300 3900**

▶ Childcare Element of Working Tax Credits

▶ Employer supported childcare

▶ If you are in training, Care to Learn or New Deal may be able to assist **0845 600 2809**

Knowsley Early Years Service provide childcare settings with business support and guidance, to assist Providers when setting there fees.

Finding Childcare in your area.....

Knowsley Early Years Childcare Information Service holds up to date information on vacancies across the Borough. Telephone: **0800 085 2022 option 1**

You can also call into your local Children's Centre where staff will be available to obtain the information for you.

Website: www.knowsley.gov.uk Email: childcare.information@knowsley.gov.uk

What if your unhappy about certain aspects of childcare

Each type of childcare has it's pros and cons, and you will need to work out what suits you and your family needs best, based on work hours, budgets, etc. but you should always expect a quality provision.


If you are unhappy with any aspect of the care you should, in the first instance, speak to the Manager of the setting, if you are not satisfied with the answers and actions, or have any other concerns, you should contact Ofsted on **0300 123 1231**

Looking For Registered Childcare In Knowsley?

<http://sportbookings.knowsley.gov.uk/EarlyYears/publicenquiry/>
Telephone: 0800 085 2022 option 1



If you would like this information in an alternative format please contact Knowsley Early Years Childcare Information Service on **0800 085 2022 (opt 1)** or **0151 443 5635**.


KNOWSley
Early Years
Childcare Information Service


Knowsley Council


Knowsley Children
and Young People's
Services

Your Choices...

Full Day Care Nursery:

A day nursery provides care and education, for children between the ages of six weeks and five years. They may also offer Wrap-around places and may provide a pick up service from nearby schools. Opening times normally coincide with a standard working day. You can send your child full or part-time.

You can find Full Daycare on a number of different sites such as Children's Centres, Knowsley Primary Schools or private dwellings.

Pre- School or Playgroups:

Pre-school or playgroups provide care for children between 2-5 years. They offer sessions from two and half hours to four hours, during term time, either every day or on several days a week.



Out of School & Holiday Childcare:

Sometimes referred to as out-of school clubs, these services are based on school sites, nurseries or community centres, they provide childcare for 4-11 year olds between 8:00am – 6:00pm 50 weeks of the year for older children please contact the Early Years Childcare Information Service.

Childminders:

Registered childminders look after your child/children along with other children, usually in their own homes. Most are willing to work early mornings, evenings and weekends, as well as part time and some offer a pick up service from local schools.

Childcare Brokerage Service for parents with a Disabled Child

Leaflet also available from the Childcare Information Service on **0800 085 2022 (Option 1)**.

What should you look for...

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A top priority for any parent is to know that their child is in safe hands.

▶ You should ask to see their Ofsted Registration certificate and also the most recent Ofsted Inspection report. Their registration ensures that they meet the 14 National Standards, that all staff have CRB checks and all staff have undertaken relevant training.

▶ You should ask questions such as:

▷ What kind of activities do you plan?

▷ Do the children have access to outdoors?

▷ Can I see the outdoor environment?

▷ Are there suitable sleeping arrangements?

▷ How can I make sure my child is settling in well?

▷ Will you keep a daily record of what they have done?

▷ Can I see how the security and signing in books work ?

▷ Do you provide my child/children with healthy food and drinks?

Benefits for your child

High quality childcare and early education gives your child a head start in primary school, research shows that it improves their educational, emotional and social development.

The benefits of part-time attendance are just as good as those for full time.

