

PREPARING FOR A DAY OF BACK-UP CHILDCARE

Childminder



Your child is currently scheduled for back-up childcare, which means that your child's back-up care will take place with a childminder. Childminder's homes are designed to be warm, inviting places where children and parents feel welcome and special. The childminder will help your child's transition to an unfamiliar place, and will offer engaging opportunities for play and discovery. Whether you use a childminder once or many times, your chosen childcare expert ensures individualised care, good communication, and partnership between the two; parents and childminder.

Each Childminder will have their own policies and procedures that may supplement or supersede the following guidelines. We recommend that you call the childminder in advance of the day of care if possible. The childminder will have more information they would like to share with you if this is your first time with this particular childminder. If time permits, we would encourage you to visit the childminder with your child(ren) before the date of care.

Preparing for your visit to the childminder's

To start your child's day off right, consider his or her individual needs and what will make your child feel comfortable in a new environment.

Babies

- The best preparation is to make sure that childminder know your baby's schedule, routines for eating, sleeping, changing, and play, as well as how you comfort your child
- Bring any items that your infant might need for the day including a change of clothes, a comfort item such as a favourite blanket or stuffed animal, nappies, wipes, etc, as well as enough formula, milk and/or baby food for the day
- Please label all clothing and other items such as bottles, cups and toys with your child's full name

Toddlers, Preschoolers and School-age Children

- Check with the childminder you will be visiting to determine if snacks and lunch are provided or if you should prepare snacks and lunch for your child. Please note that policies for heating/refrigerating food may vary by childminder
- Childminder's may also be nut-free or nut-safe and may not allow any food items that contain nuts (or other food items that may cause an allergic reaction)
- For safety reasons, most childminders discourage drawstrings and dangling jewellery, particularly for younger children
- Please be sure to send a change of clothes with your child to the childminder's as they may be needed if a spill occurs
- Please label all items with your child's full name