TYPES OF OFSTED REGISTERED CHILDCARE PROVISION

Registered Childminders (childcare on domestic premises)

A childminder is a man or a woman who looks after children from 0 – 8 years of age in their own home for more than two hours a day. Childminders are required to be registered on both the Ofsted Compulsory and Early Years Register if they are caring for children aged 0 - 8 years. Childminders MAY offer a variety of care options, these could include a drop off or collection service to a local school, early mornings, late evenings, weekends etc and some childminders are registered to care for children overnight. Childminders are registered to care for up to 6 children under 8 years of age, (this number must include any children of their own) - many childminders choose to care for older children as well. Some childminders work with an assistant and will be able to offer more places.

Day care/nurseries (childcare on non-domestic premises)

Day nurseries provide care and early education for children between birth to 5 years old. (Not all settings offer the full age range). Nurseries are usually open all year around apart from Bank Holidays and a week at Christmas and offer a range of full and part time places. Some day nurseries also offer a service to older children in the form of a Before and After School or Holiday Club. All day nurseries are required to be registered on the Ofsted Early Years Register.

Playgroups or Pre-schools (childcare on non-domestic premises)

Pre-school groups provide care and early education for children aged between two and five years old. They usually offer part-time sessions during school term time only. Some groups offer lunch clubs and early morning or afternoon care as well so parents can access full day care options at the setting. Pre-schools are required to be registered on the Ofsted Early Years Register.

Out of School Clubs (also known as Before and After School Clubs)

Out of school clubs aim to provide a safe, fun and stimulating environment for children before and after school. They usually provide care for children between 4 - 11 years at the beginning or end of the school day. They often run from school premises, but some day nurseries may also offer this type of care. Some out of school clubs may also offer a service during school holidays. Clubs that care for children over the age of 8 years or who operate for less than 2 hours a day do not have to be registered but may if they wish, apply to go on the Voluntary Childcare Register. Out of school clubs that care for children 4 - 8 years are either registered on the Compulsory and Early Years registers or are part of the schools registration with Ofsted.
Registered Holiday Play Schemes.

Registered Holiday Play Schemes offer activities for children from 4 years upwards during school holidays. They can take place on school sites, in day nurseries or other venues such as sports and community centres. If the focus of the setting is around care rather than activity based then the setting is required to register with Ofsted, however schemes that are activity based only can if they wish register on the Ofsted Voluntary Register to enable parents who are eligible to claim the Childcare Element of Working Tax Credit.