



SCHUYLER COUNTY CHILD CARE COORDINATING COUNCIL

235 S. CATHARINE STREET, P.O. BOX 312
MONTOUR FALLS, NY 14865

Dear Parents,

Recently, the Child Care Council assisted you with your search for child care. The information enclosed should cover key issues in choosing child care. We hope you find this information helpful. The program profiles will have pertinent information specific to each individual program.

***Registered/Licensed** providers are required to follow New York State's Child Care regulations and attend required trainings. It is your right as a parent to receive up to date, relevant information regarding the providers' compliance history so that you can make an informed decision for your children. Inquiries about registered providers' compliance history can be made either by calling the Child Care Council or by going to the Office of Children and Family Services website:

http://it.ocfs.ny.gov/ccfs_facilitysearch/ By entering in the county in which you are seeking child care, a list of all the Registered/Licensed providers in that county will appear. You can view the provider's profile, which is a link to the right of each providers name.

**** Legally Exempt Providers** can care for two un-related children on a full time basis. The providers own children and those that are related up to the 3rd degree do not count. They can care for more children on a part time basis as long as it is less than 3 hours per day, but never more than eight children total. At this time, Legally Exempt providers are not required to meet NYS Child Care regulations, so it is up to you to make sure that they meet your own standards. Child Care Providers, in process to become NYS Registered/Licensed, are required to follow Legally Exempt child care guidelines.

The providers that are given to you during the referral process are strictly referrals; not recommendations of any particular provider. You are responsible for the following up on information given to assist you in making your decision on appropriate child care for your children. I have included some links to information regarding child development. Please take a minute to respond to the enclosed survey, so we may update our records. If you have further questions about child care or need additional services; please call us at 607-535-7964 or Toll Free 888-535-7964

Sincerely,
Kathy Ector
Referral Counselor

PHONE (607) 535-7964 - TOLL FREE 1(888) 535-7964
FAX (607) 535-8942 - WEBSITE: www.sccccc.org
EMAIL: SCchildcareCC@stny.rr.com



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How to make your decision:

Arranging a visit for your child with the care provider on a day you can spend some quality time together. Talk about your visit and what the new arrangement will be like. If possible, plan several short visits before your child begins regular attendance. Agree to a trial period of one or two weeks to further your evaluation of chosen providers.

Now you have thought about your specific needs and priorities and have had a chance to consider the different childcare options your ready to investigate services.

1. First, call and verify that the service is potentially good for you. Is there an opening for your child? Do the hours of operation meet your needs?
2. Having received enough information to proceed, make an appt to visit without your child. You will want to spend enough time to get to know the caregiver as well as the program staff, if any.
3. Remember, a referral IS NOT a recommendation. No one knows your families as well as you do. What's good for one family is not necessarily good for another.
4. Ask for references. Speak with at least two parents whose children are enrolled in the program and ask about their satisfaction as well as your specific concerns.
5. Once you have selected an arrangement for your family, your next step is to prepare your child and yourself for this new experience. Don't expect it to be easy, expect a few bumps.

If your children take any medication, or get sick and they need to take medication while at child care please discuss it your provider. If she/he hasn't taken the Medication Administration training, then you will need to make arrangements for medication to be given at home or someone to come to the program and give your child the medication.

Trust yourself! Your good judgment and instincts are most important.

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