



Child care and early education center visit checklist

Choosing the best program for your child is an exciting and important decision. As you visit different centers, reference this guide — created by parents and early childhood educators — to help you find a safe, enriching environment, a high-quality learning experience for your child, and convenience for your workday.

Learning and development

- What are the learning philosophies and research behind the curriculum?
- Do the curriculum and teaching methods align with research about school and future-ready skills?
- How is each child's progress and development assessed and documented? Is learning displayed throughout the classroom?
- Is the program accredited or working toward it?
- How do you foster children's social-emotional learning, independence, and self-help skills?
- Are children given daily time to play outdoors?
- How do teachers address challenging behaviors?
- Are children happily engaged in interesting and diverse activities and projects?
- What kinds of books and materials are in the classroom? How are they chosen?
- Are there dedicated spaces for STEM, art, movement, etc.?

Family Support

- Are the hours flexible? What are the various schedules you offer?
- How many days are you closed throughout the year?
- Do you offer parent conferences and progress updates?
- Will I get daily communication about my child's day?
- Are parenting resources and learning activities for home available?

Teachers

- Are teachers offered benefits and professional development opportunities?
- Can they access high-quality, affordable programs that allow them to continue their education?
- How do they create inclusive and joyful classroom communities?
- Do teachers interact with children in caring, respectful, and positive ways?
- How do they manage a wide range of skills and abilities in one classroom?
- Do children have a consistent group of primary teachers?

Health, safety, and wellness

- Can infant families provide breastmilk? Can it be frozen? How are milk and formula labeled?
- Does the center have a secure entrance?
- What are the drop-off and pick-up procedures?
- Do teachers have the required training and certification in CPR and first aid?
- How are food allergies handled?
- Are surfaces disinfected throughout the day and at closing?
- Are children taught good hygiene practices in an age-appropriate way?

Schedule a visit

Did you know you have access to exceptional child care at Mattel Child Development Center?



<https://www.brighthorizons.com/mattel>
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07:30 AM - 05:00 PM

To download the complete checklist, [click here](#)