



## Questions To Ask The Child Care Center

You can make visits to day care centers and talk to their staff before you make a final decision on which center is best for your child. Below is a list of questions that you can use to begin a conversation. Think about the other things that are important to you. Make a list of your questions. Plan what you want to ask before you go.

- How many of your staff are trained in CPR and first aid?
- Is the center licensed? Is the staff licensed? By whom?
- How are substitutes hired and used in case of staff illness? Do they have the same type and amount of training as your regular staff?
- Do you have experience in working with children with health issues? What types of health issues do you have experience with?
- What ages do you serve? What ages are placed together?
- What is the procedure for dealing with illness or accidents involving children?
- Is your facility handicap accessible? What do you do if my child needs to use crutches, a wheelchair, or has mobility issues?
- What is the procedure for reporting unusual marks on my child?
- Does your staff carry emergency phones when taking children to activities outside the center's facilities?
- Do you have a regular schedule for each day?
- What is the napping policy/procedure?
- What regular communication plan is in place for your reporting on my child's day-to-day activities? Does it include health- and diet-related information?
- What kinds of meals are served? What provisions are made for special dietary needs, including allergies? Is there a menu?
- Do you have a parent handbook?
- What is your policy on parent visits?
- Does your center hold meetings for parents?
- What are the hours of operation? For what holidays is the center closed? What is the policy on late or early pick up or drop off?
- What are the emergency preparedness plans in case the facility needs to be evacuated? How will you contact parents? Where does the center evacuate in an emergency?
- Are you willing to keep my child's medication (called clotting factor) in the refrigerator for use in an emergency?
- Will my child be allowed to take medication or infuse while at the center?