

Voluntary Notification

Voluntary Notification benefits Childminders by opening up access to a range of supports including information, networking and training available through South Dublin County Childcare Committee (SDCCC), which will help Childminders to improve the quality of their services.

It also benefits Childminders who wish to:

- Operate to high standards
- Have their work valued and their contribution to the Childcare Sector recognised
- Obtain guidance on the development of policies and standards in childcare
- Participate in training, networking activities and other events
- Avail of financial support e.g. Childminder Development Grant and the €15,000 tax exemption
- Reduce the isolation often experienced by Childminders
- Contact with parents who are seeking a 'home from home' childcare environment for their child
- Be included on the SDCCC database of services (optional)

How to voluntarily notify your childminding service

The Childminder should contact Claire McEwen, Programme Development Officer (PDO) at SDCCC on 01 457 0122 and request an information pack and the National Childminders Guidelines.

(i) The Childminder should first of all **read carefully and thoroughly these Guidelines** which include the nationally recognised core requirements and good practice recommendations for Childminders.

(ii) A PDO will contact the Childminder, to arrange in advance, a date and time to visit the Childminder, to review the Self-Evaluation and to ensure that all the criteria are met.

(iii) A PDO will contact the childminder after 2 weeks or an agreed period of time, to see if everything is in order.

(vi) A PDO will be available throughout the Self-Evaluation to help, advise and guide the Childminder through the process and resolve any problems which may arise. When everything is in order, SDCCC will sign off on the Voluntary Notification Form, following which, the Childminder will be sent a confirmation that she/he has voluntarily notified.