

## Things to Consider When Choosing Childcare



Families seeking quality care for children are encouraged to consider what the best questions to ask are and what to look for in an accredited child care service. When choosing child care it is important to look at how carers and staff interact with the children and whether the atmosphere is warm, friendly and welcoming.

Some additional questions you might like to ask are:

- Am I welcome to visit my child at any time?
- Is my child made to feel welcome?
- Are family members encouraged to participate in activities?
- Is information shared between the staff, carers and families?
- Is information readily available about the child care service's policies?
- Are families informed about proposed changes to policies?
- Is there a planned program of day to day activities for my child?
- Am I encouraged to talk to staff or carers about the program/s offered?
- Do the activities interest my child?
- Will my child have opportunities for self-expression, self-direction and self-discipline?
- Are meal or snack times pleasant?
- Will my child's individual needs be met?
- Are there opportunities for my child to become familiar with the broader community?
- Are the children encouraged to explore and take on new challenges?
- Are the equipment and play spaces safe for children?
- Are there clear procedures for raising any concerns I may have?

(Extract from Australian Children's Education and Care  
Quality Authority website

<http://www.acecqa.gov.au/> )

