



Home Based Childcare Careers TO ALL THOSE PARENTS WHO WISH TO BE INVOLVED IN THE CARE AND EDUCATION OF YOUNG CHILDREN

Have you ever wished you could stay at home to meet the needs of your children AND have a rewarding career as well?

While you're watching your toddler playing in the paddling pool and enjoying her discoveries or cheering your child on at the athletic school sports day you are occupied in the most important job in society....the care and education of young children. It's probably the most challenging job there is, but it is also the most rewarding. Your warm and caring responses, your guidance and concern are some of the skills and qualities you bring to your job without even thinking because it's part of who you are and what you do.

We have a demand in your area for educators with just these special qualities to care for the young children of working, studying, or stay at home Mums and Dads who choose to have time out. Easy Mind Homebased Childcare can offer you the opportunity to care for up to 4 children (including your own) in your home and will pay you \$4.30 (with no prior training) or \$4.50 (trained) an hour for each care child. You choose how many children you wish to care for and the hours you wish to work.

Parents who choose to place their children in homebased childcare want all the things a home setting can offer their child as an alternate option to a daycare centre. This means they would like you to include their child in all the activities, outings, events and play opportunities that you provide for your own children. Most parents are enthusiastic about their child attending a local playgroup or Playcentre session each week as well as informal visits to friends and the park as part of their days in care. Most parents choose to enrol their children in kindergarten and ask their educator to drop them off at kindergarten and to pick them up. This gives their child the best of both worlds. The warm personal care of an experienced parent in a relaxed home environment and the opportunities for educational activities and socialising they can get from a kindergarten.

You get to plan your own care programme based entirely around the needs of your own family first. You can provide children whose parents work or study to feel part of a family instead of the noise and stimulation that can often overwhelm children who are cared for in a large centre setting. The rewards for you are the nurturing relationships you form, the childcare skills you develop (which could lead to further training and qualifications if you so choose) as well as a welcome boost to the family finances.

If you would like to meet with one of our Co-ordinators to discuss becoming an educator for a professional, supportive and Ministry of Education approved early childhood service, we would love to meet with you in your home at a time convenient to you.

PLEASE CALL US ON 0800 855 055 AND WE WILL SEND YOU THE APPLICATION FORMS FOR YOU TO FILL OUT AND SEND BACK TO US. WE WILL THEN PHONE YOU TO MAKE AN APPOINTMENT TO VISIT YOU IN YOUR HOME.

Please phone 0800 855 055 for help and any further information.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Please call us if you require further information or clarification on any of the following FAQ's.

. I am a single mum on a benefit. Will my earnings as an educator affect the amount I receive?

A. Practically all of your earnings as an educator are tax free. You only have to declare 25% of your income to WINZ. Therefore your benefit is likely to remain unchanged.

Q. Am I able to have some say in the child I accept for care?

A. Yes. When we have a child requiring care in your area we ask you first whether you would like to be interviewed by the parent for their child's care.

Q. My backyard is fenced but my front yard isn't. Will I still meet the requirements?

A. Yes, as long as you have a fenced area large enough for children to run & play.



Q Who supplies the nappies & food each day for the children?

A. *The parents.*

Q Who supplies the cot, highchair and double pushchair for the care children?

A. *We supply you with all this equipment. The parents supply you with a car seat.*

Q How much tax do I have to pay?

A. *Because you are working from home the taxable component of your income is minimal. It generally works out at around 2c (yes two cents) for every dollar you earn over \$16,000 as opposed to 20c for every dollar you would earn in another job. We can help you work out how much you need to put aside each week for tax. For example, an educator who earned \$29,000 before tax only paid \$600 tax for the whole year and has a year to pay it to the IRD. Other examples are; an educator who earned \$22,000 and paid \$89 tax for the whole year, and an educator who earned \$16,000 and paid no tax at all.*

Q Do the parents pay me directly?

A. *No, we charge the parents and collect the fees. We pay you weekly; regardless of whether the parents are up to date with their fees or not.*

Q Who supplies the toys?

A. *It is your responsibility to provide books and toys, but if you have none these can be purchased second hand from op shops, garage sales, etc at minimal cost. We will contribute to your art supplies e.g. paints, paper, glue, chalk, crayons, etc.*

Q. Who pays for entry fees to early childhood programmes in our community such as playcentre, play groups, mini gym, music sessions, the zoo, etc?

A. *We do. You can claim reimbursement for any programmes you take your care children to. We encourage you to use these programmes in your community as they complement homebased care very well.*

Q. I have a dog. Do I have to keep it tied up while children are in care?

A. *No, but you must have an area which is separate from the children to keep your dog. Supervised interaction between pets and children is encouraged. Dogs must be healthy and faeces removed from play areas.*

Q If I have any concerns about the children in my care and I don't know how to approach the subject tactfully with the parents what do I do?

A. *Your Co-ordinator is your support person and is only too happy to help with all aspects of your care.*

Q. What written work would I be required to do?

A. *Every child has a learning journal in which you can put samples of their artwork, share stories about some of the interesting moments spent in your home and for photographs (we supply all educators with their own free calling mobile with camera). Under two year olds also have a daily notebook in which you record sleeps and nappy changes.*

Q What training will I be required to do?

A. *We will enrol you in an Open Polytechnic of NZ correspondence course in basic homebased care skills, which we pay for. Our Training Manager will provide as much help and support as you need to complete this. Every two years you will be required to attend a four hour Paediatric First Aid refresher course which we will arrange and pay for. This course has no written requirements.*

Q. Do I have to do my training before I start as an educator?

A. *No, we will enrol you in the courses after you become an educator.*

Q. Why have you sent me two police checks?

A. *We require a police check for each member of your household aged over 17 years. If you require only one police check discard the other or if you require more, photocopy one or ask us to send you another.*



Q. I have two primary school aged children and one preschooler of my own. How many children will I be allowed to care for?

A. *In this example you will be allowed a maximum of 3 other preschool children. You can have as many children aged over 6 years as you wish. If you have no preschoolers then you are allowed up to 4 preschool children.*

Q. Does Easymind provide care for school aged children?

A. *No. We are an early childhood service.*

Q. Where do I phone if I need more information or assistance to fill out my forms?

A. *Free call 0800 855 055.*