



# ***Childminding Ireland***

**The National  
Voluntary Organisation  
for  
Family Home  
Based Childcare**

## Introduction

*Childminding Ireland*, the National Association for Childminders, is the only organisation in Ireland dedicated to working for Childminding, providing information, and support to Childminders, and ensuring their voices are heard at a national level.

### Mission Statement

*Childminding Ireland, as the National Association, is committed to promoting the development of quality in family based care for children by providing a range of services for Childminders, developing training for the Childminding sector and promoting the development of local Childminding networks.*

### Childminding Ireland's objectives are:

- To promote high standards in Family Home based Childcare
- To inform Childminders and parents about quality Family Home based Childcare, business practice, child protection and welfare, regulations, grants etc.
- To promote Childminding as a positive childcare setting for children.

## Background

*Childminding Ireland* was founded in 1983 by a group of Childminders. The Association was incorporated in 1998.

In 1999, *Childminding Ireland* received funding from the Equal Opportunities Childcare Programme which enabled it to grow to become the strong organisation of today.

*Childminding Ireland* is currently funded by the National Childcare Investment program and the HSE.

The Association is a registered Charity and Company Limited by Guarantee, whose Board of Directors, most of whom are working Childminders, are elected at the Annual General Meeting.

Charity Status Number: CHY 11504. Company Number: 283469

## Structure

*Childminding Ireland* staff work from the Head Office in Kilcoole, Co. Wicklow. There are also Regional Development Workers in Mayo and Meath.

The Services Department based in Head Office provide support and vacancy matching to almost 1,000 members.

The nationwide Help Line (open Monday to Friday 9am – 5pm, on 01 287 8466) is operated by fully trained staff from Head Office.

*Childminding Ireland* works closely with other national childcare organisations through membership of the National Voluntary Childcare Collaborative and the Irish Childcare Policy Network and the City and County Childcare Committees.

*Childminding Ireland* has partnered with IBM to provide quality Childminding options for IBM staff.



## Membership



There are four levels of membership of *Childminding Ireland*

### **Registered Childminder Membership**

A Registered Childminder is:

- Committed to providing a quality Childcare service
- Self Employed, working in their own home
- Have clearance from their GP
- Adequately insured to provide a Childminding service
- Minding up to 5 children

### **General Membership**

This category of membership is open to childcare students, those contemplating becoming a Childminder, nannies and au-pairs.

### **Community Membership**

This membership is open to County Childcare Committees, community and voluntary groups.

### **Corporate Membership**

This membership is open to sponsors and donors.





Ireland holds the presidency of the  
International Family Day Care Organisation  
(IFDCO) 2006-2009.

IFDCO is an international network of members involved in Family Day-care (Childminding). IFDCO particularly aims to advance the education and training of Childminders and those associated with Childminding by holding conferences, promoting and publishing research and other relevant information.

*Childminding Ireland* will host an International Conference from the 20th-25th July 2009.

[www.ifdco.com](http://www.ifdco.com)

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