

Child Care Checklist

If you're looking for quality child care, the first step is knowing what questions to ask. Here is a suggested list from TOT-INFO, a child care resource and referral clearinghouse (see phone numbers at end).

■ General

- Is the program licensed, registered, accredited?
- Do the hours and location meet your needs?
- What is the cost of child care? Additional charges?
- Are parents free to visit?
- How is discipline handled?
- Is care available when your child is sick or if school is closed for holidays or bad weather?
- Do children seem happy? Will your child be happy in this environment?

■ Facility and Materials

- Is the setting safe, clean and comfortable?
- Are the rooms bright and pleasant?
- Is the outdoor play area secure and safe, and is there enough space for all of the children?
- What security measures are being used?
- Are there enough safe, clean and appropriate toys and equipment for all the children's ages?
- Is the environment interesting and stimulating?



LEHIGH VALLEY

HOSPITAL AND
HEALTH NETWORK

LEHIGH VALLEY HOSPITAL
Cedar Crest & I-78, Allentown
17th & Chew Streets, Allentown

LEHIGH VALLEY HOSPITAL—
MUHLENBERG
Route 22 & Schoenersville Road
Bethlehem

www.lvh.org
610-402-CARE

For more information
or for a physician referral,
call 610-402-CARE

Child Care Checklist

■ Caregivers/Teachers

- Are the caregivers enjoying the children?
- Do they comfort and hold the children?
- What is the ratio of caregivers to children?
- Are caregivers trained in first aid, CPR?
- What is the staff turnover rate?
- Do caregivers speak to each child on a face-to-face level, and are they greeted warmly on arrival?
- Are caregivers trained and experienced with ongoing development training?
- Will caregivers tell you about your child's day and answer your questions in a pleasant manner?

■ Program

- Is the schedule and program flexible to meet the children's needs?
- Are the children carefully watched?
- Is there a daily balance of playtime, story time, outdoor time, activity time and naptime?
- Are the children grouped by age or development level with appropriate activities?

TOT-INFO is a service of Community Services for Children, Inc., in Allentown. Call

610-TOT-INFO

or

610-437-6000, EXT. 2319

or

Toll-free **1-800-528-7222**



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