

The checklists provided are guidelines only.

**For further information on Child Care and Safety Information, please contact:**

Home Child Care Association of Ontario  
[www.hccao.com](http://www.hccao.com)

Infant and Toddler Safety Association  
[www.infantandtoddlersafety.ca](http://www.infantandtoddlersafety.ca)

Ministry of Education  
[www.edu.gov.on.ca](http://www.edu.gov.on.ca)



## **Home Child Care Affiliated with an Agency vs. No Affiliation**

### **Affiliated with an Agency**

- Homes are monitored by an agency licensed by the Ministry of Education. Oxford Community Child Care is the licensed agency for Oxford County.
- Providers have the opportunity to provide care for up to 6 children including their own (age restrictions apply).
- Providers must comply with standards set in the Child Care & Early Years Act.

### **No Affiliation with an Agency**

- Occurs in your own home or in the provider's home.
- Monitored solely by the parents.
- The provider may care for up to five children including their own children (age restrictions apply).

# **Searching for Quality Home Child Care**

Safety Checklists



**OXFORD COMMUNITY  
CHILD CARE**

21 Market Street East  
Woodstock, ON  
N4S 1H6

519-539-4419  
[info@oxfordccc.ca](mailto:info@oxfordccc.ca)  
[www.oxfordccc.ca](http://www.oxfordccc.ca)

## General Checklist:

- Are there 5 children or fewer (including the provider's own 6 years & under)?
- Have I checked references & police checks?
- Is there daily communication?
- Are surprise visits allowed?
- Is there an ill child policy in place?
- Do I agree with methods of discipline?
- Am I content with the safety of any pets?
- Does the provider have full liability insurance of \$2 million+ ?
- Does the home have a small business licence, if located in the city?

## Emergency Procedures Checklist:

- Does the provider have current first aid?
- Is the provider trained in CPR including infant CPR?
- Is there a well-stocked first aid kit accessible only to adults?
- Are emergency numbers posted by each telephone?
- Is parent contact information close by?
- Is a fire drill practiced monthly?

## Safety Behaviour Checklist:

- Are children directly supervised?
- Are safety straps used on highchairs, change tables, etc. every time?
- Is a properly installed, approved car seat used for outings? Does parent provide?
- Are matches & lighters kept out of reach?
- Are regular maintenance checks done on equipment & toys used by children?
- Are toys & equipment regularly disinfected?

## Indoor Environment Checklist:

- Is the home clean and well maintained?
- Is there space for active play?
- Is the furniture in good repair?
- Does equipment meet current safety standards?
- Are there safety gates at the top and bottom of stairs?
- Are stairs well lit, with handrails?
- Are windows inaccessible and shatter resistant, with locks?
- Are all poisonous and hazardous materials kept in a locked cupboard?
- Are plants nontoxic?
- Are all cords fastened and out of reach?
- Are electrical outlets covered?
- Are there working smoke and carbon monoxide detectors on each level?
- Are fire extinguishers available and serviced?
- Is there a fire evacuation plan posted?
- Are basement, workshop, and laundry areas inaccessible?

## Outdoor Environment Checklist:

- Is the area fenced?
- Is it free of hazardous materials & plants?
- Is there a pool?
- Is there a locked fence around the pool?
- Are gardening tools and chemicals locked away?
- Is play equipment in good condition?
- Does play equipment meet safety standards?
- Is the sandbox covered and raked regularly when used?

## Sleeping Checklist:

- Is there one crib or bed per child?
- Do cribs & beds meet current standards?
- Is the crib or bed located away from other furniture, windows, and cords?
- Does each child have their own bedding that is washed as needed & weekly?
- Is there a baby monitor?

## Meal Checklist:

- Are menus, special diets, and allergies posted?
- Do menus follow Canada's Food Guide?
- Where do the children eat?
- Are hard or round foods grated or cut into small pieces?
- Is there a high chair or booster seat if needed?
- Does the highchair have a safety strap and a stable base?
- Is the highchair located away from appliances, windows, walls, and other furniture?

## Bathroom Checklist:

- Is the hot water temperature set below 54°C?
- Are all medicines, cosmetics, cleaners, and appliances locked away in a cupboard out of the reach of children?

## Diapering Checklist:

- Is there a separate diapering area away from food?
- Are diapering supplies stored out of a child's reach?