



The Ultimate Childcare Tour Checklist: 20 Things Every Parent Should Ask and Look For

Health & Safety

1. Cleanliness: Are classrooms, toys, and restrooms clean and well-maintained?
2. Security Measures: Is there a secure entrance with controlled access?
3. Childproofing: Are outlets covered, furniture anchored, and hazardous items out of reach?
4. Emergency Preparedness: Does the center have fire drills, evacuation plans, and first-aid-trained staff?
5. Health Policies: How does the center handle illnesses, injuries, and hygiene practices?

Environment

6. Classroom Setup: Are spaces inviting, organized, and appropriate for the age groups?
7. Outdoor Play Area: Is there a safe, engaging outdoor space with well-maintained equipment?
8. Teacher-to-Child Ratio: Are there enough staff members to give children proper attention?
9. Atmosphere: Is the environment warm, nurturing, and welcoming?

Curriculum & Learning

10. Daily Schedule: Are there structured routines with a balance of learning, play, and rest?
11. Educational Activities: Are there age-appropriate learning materials and activities?
12. Curriculum Alignment: Does the program align with early learning standards?
13. Evidence of Learning: How do they track and share children's progress (e.g., apps, reports, or photos)?

Staff

14. Staff Qualifications: Are teachers certified or trained in early childhood education?
15. Staff Interaction: Do teachers seem engaged, friendly, and attentive to the children?
16. Staff Longevity: How long have the staff been working there?

