



What Providers Expect from Parents

A sense of stability and consistency can be developed when parents, providers, and children know what to expect.

Here is what providers expect from you:

An agreement about expectations in scheduling, payment of fees, and vacation times.

A willingness to ask questions and listen until all facts are collected when difficulties arise.

Ample notice if there will be a change in care so that the provider may fill the vacant spot with another child.

Fulfillment of agreed upon pick-up and drop-off times. Honor payment dates and bring supplies as requested.

When a child is sick, parents need to be honest with the provider to avoid spreading germs to other children.

Informing the provider if the child did not eat breakfast or did not sleep well the night before.

Approval when the child develops an attachment to the provider, rather than feeling threatened. This is an indication that the child feels safe and loved.

Reprinted with permission from the National Network for Child Care - NNCC. DeBord, K. (1993). *Communicating expectations*. In Todd, C.M. (Ed.), **Family Child Care Connections**, 3(2), pp.3-4. Urbana-Champaign, IL: University of Illinois Cooperative Extension Service.

Other things providers may expect...

To be informed when a child is taking any kind of medication, from a doctor or over the counter.

To be informed about marks or scratches the child has received at home. This helps the provider to be aware of marks or scratches that result from accidents during the child care day.

For more information contact:



The Center for Parent Involvement (FCPI) was funded by the U.S. Department of Education; Goals 2000, Educate America Act from 1994-1999. Guided by an advisory board of parents and professionals, the FCPI's goal was to tap the power of parents.

The FCPI gathered information on parent needs, coordinated the information, and created a series of resources organized by theme, including fact sheets for parents and professionals, "Beyond the Basics" resources, and resource identification lists. Many of the resources have been translated into Spanish language versions, and every effort has been made to preserve the meaning and flavor of the original English documents. This series of materials provides a wealth of current information for both parents and providers; the complete set of resources can be obtained in PDF format on the Department of Child and Family Studies Website at www.fmhi.usf.edu/cfs/dares/fcpi. The staff of the FCPI are hopeful that their work will continue to help children get ready to learn for many years to come.

The series' themes include:

- Family Empowerment
- Parent Involvement
- Parenting Support
- School Readiness
- Violence in the Lives of Children
- Transition to Kindergarten

The Center was one component of a project led by Hillsborough County Center of Excellence in collaboration with the Department of Child & Family Studies at USF's de la Parte Institute and the Florida Children's Forum. Other project partners include HIPPIY (Home Instruction Program for Preschool Youngsters), Hillsborough County Head Start and Hillsborough County Even Start. For more information about these projects, call 813.974.4612.

Family Empowerment Series, Parent Tip Sheets, #8: Transition: What Providers Expect from parents

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