

After your visit

After the visit to the centre, ensure your answer is YES to the following questions before making your final decision.

1. Does the programme offered by the centre match your goals for your child?
2. Are you comfortable with the centre's policies and procedures regarding Behaviour, Hazard Management, Special Education Needs, Child Protection and Safeguarding?

Learn more from the Education Council Guidelines for Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) Centres, 2013 and the Cayman Islands Early Years Framework, found on the Ministry of Education's website: www.gov.ky/education.

133 Elgin Avenue
George Town, Grand Cayman
Phone: (345) 244-3155

Early Childhood Care & Education Unit
Cayman Islands Government

Ministry of Education
Cayman Islands Government

Choosing an Early Childhood Centre for Your Child

gov.ky/education



Points to consider before your visit

1. Where is the centre located?
2. What kind of service does the centre offer ....full-time/part-time, part day *(morning or afternoon)* or 2-3 days a week?
3. Do the monthly fees fit within your budget?
4. What does the most recent Office of Education Standards (OES) inspection report say about the centre?
5. Is the centre registered and displaying a current Certificate of Registration?



What types of Childcare does the centre provide?

Developmentally Appropriate Practices
Practices that are age and stage appropriate, meeting the needs of all children.

Child Centred Learning
Activities are planned explicitly around children's needs and interests. The physical environment reflects experiences based on children's needs and offers them increased opportunities to choose activities according to their interests and skill level.

The Cayman Islands Early Years Curriculum Framework promotes child-centred learning and an inquiry-based approach to teaching and learning.



During your visit observe the following:

Well-being

- Do you feel welcome at the centre?
- Do the children at the centre appear to be happy and well-adjusted?
- Does the staff seem respectful of all children?

Environment

- Is the environment clean?
- Is the indoor and outdoor space safe and accessible for all children?
- Is access to the centre secure?
- Do the display areas celebrate children's projects and activities?
- Are toys, books and other learning materials readily available to children?
- Is the centre spacious or crowded?

Each child should have at least 20 square feet of space indoors and 40 square feet outdoors.

During your visit ask about the following:

- Is the centre registered by the Education Council?
- How many people are on staff?
- Are staff trained, and is training continuous?
- Have all staff completed the mandated child safeguarding training?

ECCE Centres should have at least one (1) licensed teacher per ten (10) non-licenced staff.

- What opportunities are provided for indoor and outdoor learning?
- Do children go on field trips or outings?
- What are the procedures for picking up and dropping off children?
- How do you handle emergencies?
- How often are parents informed of their child's progress?
- How can parents assist at the centre?
- What are the payment options and procedures?