

Measures to Minimise the Impact on Neighbours

With reference to your recent request, I would like to outline the measures I intend to put in place to minimise any potential impact of my childminding business on neighbouring properties, particularly in relation to noise.

I have considerable experience working in schools and private nurseries and understand the importance of planning activities carefully when working within a residential environment. I am also a **Forest School Leader**, and my childcare provision will include a strong focus on outdoor learning and activities within the local community.

I do not own any dogs and do not anticipate that the noise associated with my business will be significantly greater than that which would normally be expected from a household with children.

Daily and Weekly Activities

A significant part of my childcare provision will take place away from the property. My intention is to take the children out into the community most mornings from approximately **9:30am until lunchtime**.

My planned weekly programme will include:

- **Monday:** Forest School activities and outdoor learning, including Beechwood Park.
- **Tuesday:** Mother and toddler activities at the church next door to my property, where appropriate.
- **Wednesday:** A local play café.
- **Thursday:** The library for story time and other literacy activities.
- **Friday:** A planned day trip, which may include a farm, beach, zoo or soft play, depending on the children's ages, interests and the weather.

This will provide the children with varied educational, social and recreational experiences while also meaning that they will not routinely be at the property throughout the morning.

On returning home, the children will have lunch followed by a **quiet period until approximately 2:00pm**, including sleep or rest for those children who require it.

Managing Noise Within the Home

When the children are indoors, there will be **two childminders**, allowing the children to be divided into two smaller groups where appropriate. This will prevent large groups of children from congregating in one room and will support a calmer environment.

Internal doors will be kept closed where appropriate to help contain noise.

The children will also be taught to use an **"inside voice"** and will learn that different environments have different expectations. Both childminders will model and reinforce calm communication and appropriate behaviour.

The children will use the **downstairs toilet only** and will not have access to the upstairs areas of the house. This will avoid unnecessary movement between floors and help minimise additional noise within the property.

I recognise that children will naturally become excited at times, but I will monitor activities and intervene where noise becomes excessive or unnecessarily disruptive.

Living Room – Quiet and Sleep Room

I am particularly conscious that my living room is adjacent to my neighbour's property. For this reason, I intend to use this room as the **quiet and sleep room**, rather than as an area for energetic or boisterous play.

It will be used for sleeping, resting, reading, storytelling and other quiet activities. Following lunch, children requiring sleep or rest will use this room until approximately 2:00pm.

This arrangement means that the room closest to my neighbour will be specifically designated for quieter activities.

Outdoor Learning and Garden Use

Outdoor learning will be an important part of my provision, but the garden will not be used as a children's playground or for continuous unrestricted play.

Activities will be purposeful and linked to the children's learning and development. These may include painting, gardening, digging, building, weaving, nature observation and storytelling.

The garden may be used between approximately **9:30am and 4:30pm**, subject to weather and seasonal conditions. However, the children will not be outside continuously during these hours.

As most mornings will be spent away from the property, garden use will generally take place during appropriate periods later in the day. I anticipate structured garden activities being approximately **60–90 minutes in the morning and 60–90 minutes in the afternoon**, although this will naturally vary according to the children's needs, the weather and the activity planned.

Quiet activities such as storytelling and nature observation will also form part of our outdoor learning.

Helping Children Manage Their Behaviour

Children will be given clear, age-appropriate expectations about behaviour and noise within the home.

They will be taught that the home is a residential environment and not a playground, and that an "inside voice" is appropriate indoors. I will encourage children to listen, communicate appropriately, take turns and become aware of how their behaviour can affect others.

These skills will also be developed through visits to parks, libraries, community groups and other public settings where children learn that different environments have different expectations.

Number of Children

Although I understand that my registration allows me to care for up to 10 children within the applicable regulatory ratios, **I do not intend to operate at this maximum level.**

I intend to care for **no more than seven minded children in addition to my grandson**, meaning that the total number of children at the property will **not exceed eight under any circumstances.**

This self-imposed limit will allow me to provide effective supervision and, together with the presence of two childminders, enable children to be divided into smaller groups where appropriate.

Commitment to Neighbours

I fully understand that I will be operating a childcare business within a residential property and that my neighbours are entitled to the reasonable enjoyment of their homes.

For this reason, I will plan the children's activities carefully, make regular use of facilities within the local community, manage indoor and outdoor activities appropriately, and actively teach the children to be considerate of their surroundings.

The combination of regular community outings, smaller indoor groups, the use of the downstairs toilet only, no access to the upstairs areas, a designated quiet and sleep room, appropriate garden use and teaching children to use an "inside voice" will all help to minimise the potential impact of the business on neighbouring properties.

I will also remain approachable should any genuine concern arise and will consider any reasonable issue raised by a neighbour.

My aim is to provide children with a high-quality, varied and stimulating childcare experience while operating the business in a considerate manner and keeping any potential impact on neighbouring properties to a minimum.

If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to call or email to discuss.
Many thanks