IS MY CHILD SAFE?

As much as you’d love to be with your child all the time, it’s not always possible. When you leave your child in someone else’s care, you want to make sure they are safe.

The more you know about your child care provider and their procedures, the better. Don’t be afraid to ask questions of your provider and staff. Look around and report safety concerns.

Put Safety First

Your family’s well-being is your top priority. A fundamental concern of parents is child safety. Use the following tips to make daily observations about your child’s safety. Check to see:

- Location of smoke detectors
- Location of the posted evacuation plan
- How often emergency drills are practiced
- Location of the posted operating license
- Covered outlets and child proofed spaces
- Safe behaviors by staff and children
- Clean and safe indoor and outdoor spaces

Fire Safety

If there is a fire, you may have less than three minutes to get out. Talk with your child care provider about how they prepare for a fire.

You can help by checking to see:

- Is there a working smoke detector on every floor?
- Is there a plan for changing smoke detector batteries?
- Is an evacuation plan posted?
- How often are fire drills practiced?
- Are electrical cords and wires in good condition and not overloaded?
Does Your Provider...

- Post a current certificate of compliance in a place you can see?
- Manage who enters and exits?
- Have a plan for emergencies posted showing exits?
- Include children in fire drills?
- Have visible working smoke detectors?
- Provide a letter explaining the emergency plan and where evacuation sites are located?
- Keep hazardous materials locked and away from children?
- Remind you to update contact information every six months?
- Contact you in an emergency?
- Show you where children sleep during naps?
- Let you know about your child’s day?
- Understand typical behavior?

Do Staff...

- Interact with children on the child’s level?
- Pay attention to children’s needs?
- Help children resolve conflict?
- Allow children to make choices every day?
- Supervise children at all times, even when they are sleeping?
- Have a variety of age appropriate activities throughout the day for children?
- Seem happy, warm and welcoming to you and your child?
- Tell you how your child’s day went?
- Let you know if your child was hurt?

For help in finding a child care program, contact your Early Learning Resource Center at www.raiseyourstar.org or search for a provider online at www.findchildcare.pa.gov
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How Do I Know If My Child Is Safe?

It can be hard to know exactly what happens with a child when they are not with you.

Use this brochure to begin asking and answering questions about your child's safety.

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IS MY CHILD SAFE?

Fire Safety in Child Care Settings
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Ask Your Child

- When was the last fire drill?
- Where does everyone meet after leaving the building during a fire drill?
- What do you do if there is smoke in a room?

Put Safety First

Your family’s well-being is your top priority. A fundamental concern of parents is child safety. Use the following tips to make daily observations of how safe your child is.

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- Location of the posted operating license
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