Safe kids Healthy kids Happy kids

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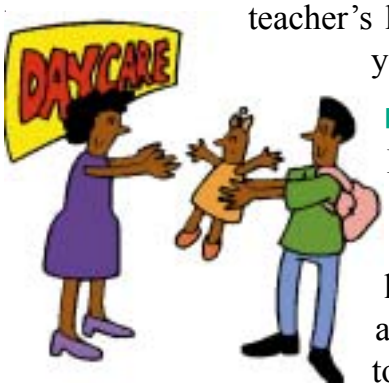
Parents and Daycare Providers Are a Team

Many parents rely on daycares for their child while they are at work. Hopefully, parents have a person or daycare facility that they trust to keep their child safe, secure and happy.



It is important for parents to keep a positive relationship with their daycare provider. Make daycare good for your child, your provider and yourself:

- Turn in all your paperwork before your child starts daycare. Do not make the daycare wait for necessary forms. Daycares are required by law to keep records for each child. This includes shot records, other necessary medical information, contact information and medical release forms.

- Read *all* notices and letters from the daycare. Find out how the daycare will give you important information. It might be by mail, posted on a bulletin board or in your child's cubby or bin. *Read what they send you.* You will find out about field trips, activities, parties, school closings and problems the daycare must address.

- Attend all mandatory meetings. Daycares may hold parent/teacher conferences, parent meetings or special workshops. You meet other parents, share stories and create lasting friendships. It also says that you value the teacher's knowledge, time and effort to help you be a better parent.

- Pick up your child *on time*! Daycare providers have lives outside of daycare. They also have families. When you are late, they are late. They have appointments and need to get home to their families. Emergencies happen. If you are going to be late, make arrangements to have your child picked up on time. Or, call your daycare provider and explain the situation.

- Tell your pre-school teacher or director about any problems. Problems may be occurring at home or at school. Do not wait. Talk to them as soon as possible. Be calm and ready to cooperate.

- Make sure your child has needed supplies. Ask about extra clothes for spills or potty accidents, backpacks for papers, special toys and family pictures.

- Be a good role model for your child. Let him see you greet his teacher, say thank you, smile and work together.

You and your daycare provider are a *team*. Together, you will shape your child's behavior. Let your child see you working together in harmony.

Call the Parent Help Line. We listen. We can find you help.
1-217-544-5808 or 1-888-727-5889 from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m., 7 days a week.

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