



## In Home Carers

In Home Carers are dedicated child care providers. Part of the carer's role is to provide the children with a variety of age appropriate, play-based activities that encourage each child's development, learning and life skills. For non-school aged children, carers work within the Early Years Learning Framework. (EYLF - <http://www.mychild.gov.au/earlyyearslearning.htm>)

In Home Carers are not expected to perform household duties other than those associated with the care of children. It is important that you discuss your family's needs with the In Home Child Care service on enrolment, and meet with the carer before care begins so that they can become familiar with your family, your home and your children.



For more information about In Home Child Care, contact  
The National In-Home Childcare Association (NICA)

Website - <http://www.nica.org.au>

Email - [nica@nica.org.au](mailto:nica@nica.org.au)



In Home Child Care services are committed to providing quality, flexible child care in your own home environment.

*The Commonwealth Government provides financial support for In Home Child Care services under the Child Care Services Support Program.*

For more information about the Child Care Rebate or Child Care Benefit contact:

**Child Care Access Hotline**  
**1800 670 305\***

A Translator Information Service is also available.

**The TTY service is available on**  
**1800 639 327\***

*\* A free call unless calling from a mobile or pay phone*



# IN HOME CHILD CARE

approved child care  
provided in  
families homes



# approved child care provided in families homes

## In Home Child Care

is a flexible form of child care where children can be cared for in their own home, by an approved carer. **To be eligible for In Home Child Care,**

**families must have no access to existing child care services** and/or their circumstances mean that an existing child care service cannot meet their needs. Families must **also** meet one or more of the following criteria –

- Live in a rural or remote area
- Work Non standard working hours, where no other child care is available
- Have three or more children who have not yet commenced school
- Have one or more of the parents in the family with a serious illness or disability
- Have one or more of the children in the family with a seriously illness or disability

DEEWR will continue to have discretion to allow exemptions to the eligibility criteria for a family in exceptional circumstances. Services must contact their State/Territory Departmental officer in such circumstances.

## The benefits of In Home Child Care

If you have no access to any other child care services, and you meet an eligibility criteria for In Home Child Care, your child(ren) can receive child care provided by an approved carer in their own home. For example, for families living on a farm, In Home Child Care may allow both parents to participate in the management of the property while their children are being cared for nearby. Care is monitored and supported by an approved In Home Child Care service and National Standards are in place to ensure quality outcomes for children. (<http://www.deewr.gov.au/EarlyChildhood/Programs/ChildCareforServices/SupportforChildCareServices/Pages/InHomeCare.aspx>)

## Finding an In Home Child Care service

You can find out which services offer In Home Child Care in your area by contacting the Child Care Access Hotline (see back page for details) or by visiting the National In-Home Childcare Association Website - <http://www.nica.org.au>

## What to expect from a service

All services providing In Home Child Care are required to monitor, support and train carers. Services also must have policies on aspects of care, including hygiene and safety. Approved services will prepare an In Home Child Care agreement for families receiving In Home Child Care. This agreement will clearly outline the care requirements and the responsibilities of the service, the carer and the family. The Commonwealth Government require that In Home Child Care services review each family's eligibility for In Home Child Care every six months. Families will be required to complete a review form and provide documentation as evidence in support of their eligibility, on enrolment and at six monthly reviews.

## Care for families with additional needs

The Commonwealth Government provides support to assist families who have a child(ren) with additional support needs (eg. children with a disability) to access child care services. If your child has additional support needs that cannot be accommodated by an existing child care service, you may be eligible for In Home Child Care.

For more information about Commonwealth support for families with additional needs, contact the Child Care Access Hotline.

## The cost of In Home Child Care

Services offering In Home Child Care can provide you with information about the costs of care. The Commonwealth Government provides assistance with the cost of child care, to eligible families, through Child Care Benefit and also the Child Care Rebate. For more information contact the Child Care Access Hotline or visit <http://www.mychild.gov.au/childcareassistance.htm>

