



The Parent/Provider Partnership

Remaining involved in the daily care of your child is important. Child care works best for everyone when a good, trusting relationship is developed between the family and child care provider. In a healthy parent/provider relationship, both parties are honest, show mutual respect, and use open communication. Here are some examples of ways this can be accomplished by parents and providers.

Parent	Provider
Be honest about how you believe the arrangement is working	Don't make commitments that cannot be kept.
Show trust by asking questions rather than jumping to conclusions if a problem arises	Never cover up problems or accidents that occur.
Respect the provider's choice of profession and view them as a professional	Respect the parent's choice to work outside the home
Be clear in explaining wishes and expectations.	Encourage parents to ask questions and ask questions of the parents.
Share information on routines, preferences, problems and progress.	Provide regular updates on the children's development.
Expect open access to the child care setting during operating hours.	Offer open access to the child care setting during all operating hours.
Expect precautions are taken to keep children safe.	Abide by the parent's wishes.
Follow through on all agreements, such as, picking children up and paying tuition on time.	Expect parents to follow through on all agreements, such as, picking up children and paying on time.

Compromise and open communication are essential in making any child care arrangement successful. A partnership between parents and child care providers doesn't just happen; it takes effort and practice that is worth it to provide the best possible care for children.