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Early Years Factsheet is an initiative of the Institute of Early Childhood Development (IECD) that presents a snapshot of the research carried out in Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) Through this Factsheet, IECD aims to widely disseminate the findings in a manner that is simple and easy to understand for the general population.

MONITORING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF The National Standards for Childminding Services

The Institute of Early Childhood Development (IECD) conducted a study to evaluate the implementation of the ten core National Standards for Childminding Services.

The study also aimed to determine the challenges that childminders faced in implementing the standards, to gauge the knowledge of Childminders about the standards and to gather the views of

parents on the application of the standards..

Areas Identifie OR IMPROVEME

Encourage children to ask questions

Provide opportunities for the children to make choices

CHILD

- Record

PROTECTION

keeping for incidents or behavioural changes

SAFETY

Fumigation as per requirements

> - Storage of Hazardous Material

- Valid Fire Extinguisher

about eating habits,

behaviour, daily activities and development milestones

Store & manage children's milk supplies

> - Use mealtime to promote good nutritional habits

> > Serve healthy

Keep

records

and play

activities

on children's

educational

- Maintain records on

each child's

achievements

behaviour,

& progress

DMINISTRATION

snacks

HEALTH

-Toothbrushing practices

Handwashing & diapering procedures

Storage of medicines

- Regular cleaning of sanitary facilities with

STAFFING

- Validity & availability of Suitability Check Records, Medical Fitness Certificate & Food Handler's Certificate

Maintain a personal background profile

Maintain indoor room safety and ensure soft flooring

Provide adequate safe, fenced, soft ground, outdoor space

PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT



Organize

outdoor

activities

- Ensure

Early Learning

Plan ahead for

Early Learning

activities

provision of

stimulating

Resources









Communicate

with parents





Valuing opinions

Giving advice

Involvement

Respect





- Necessary equipment
- Appropriate stimulation



The Childminding establishment to give not only necessary care but also early learning experiences and required help and support

CARE &

EARLY LEARNING



Protect children from harm, address child's concerns, help if child is ill and discuss child behaviour



Meeting individual children's needs and support the child to achieve their potential

INDIVIDUALIZATION



Be approachable and welcoming

RELATIONSHIP

State of the building

- Cleanliness
- Level of safety inside and outside

Childminders are likely to continue service in the foreseeable future

Childminders attach great value to being appreciated for the service they provide to parents and communities

RECOMMENDATION

dvocacy for recognition of childminders' service as a valuable contribution

to the community

SUBSIDY

PROFIT & LOSS

Knowledge

1 in 3 completed Secondary Education



1 in 4

completed Post-Secondary



None have a University Degree

KNOWLEDGE OF STANDARDS

Childminders' Knowledge of Standards

on Health, Nutrition. Early Learning & Interaction



KNOWIFDGF GAPS

E.g. Learning by doing, questioning techniques, knowledge about Child Development, use of television to keep children quiet and time spent indoors

> RECOMMENDATION Childminders may need more

training & Professional Development

All Registered Childminders benefit from Government subsidies and assistance with acquisition of resources



75% of all Registered establishments are



Childminding financially sustainable

- Average monthly operational cost is SR 12,080
- Operating costs are considerably higher on the islands
- Childminding fees vary considerably
- Monthly income depends on number of children enrolled

RECOMMENDATIONS

Childminders' capacity for financial planning may need to be developed and increased financial assistance may need to be considered Community & Parent Relationships

Childminders and Parents value each other and Childminders have useful linkages with community organizations, services and facilities.

However, the following areas for improvement were identified:

CHILDMINDERS

- Encourage parents to spend time inside the establishment
- Use Parents' observations for planning

PARENTS

- **Timely Payments**
- Sending in children when they are unwell
- Timekeeping
- Provision of unhealthy snacks

Through this study, baseline information has been gathered regarding the implementation of standards in childminding services. Tools have been developed to rigorously monitor the level of compliance to the standards. The findings will be used to further enhance the quality of childminding services in Seychelles.

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Sponsor: Government of Seychelles

Consultant : Dr. André Leste

Project Officers: Lianette Morel, Vereine Louis-Marie and Juhi Jha Registered Childminders, Childminding Staff and Parents

IECD Management and Staff

INSTITUTE OF EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT 3rd Floor, Le Chantier Mall Francis Rachel Street VICTORIA, MAHE





PHONE: 4673700

EMAIL: ceooffice@iecd.gov.sc WEBSITE:www.iecd.gov.sc

