



Building brighter futures

Coram PACEY is here to support early years providers and the incredible work they do.

Formed in 1977, we are a professional association dedicated to supporting home-based childcare professionals including childminders and nannies to provide high quality services, information and advice to children, their families and carers. We want all children to experience high quality childcare and early education, helping them to have a bright future.

We are a community of nearly 14,000 early years providers.

We represent 50% of registered childminders in England and Wales.

Our members are childminders, nannies, childminding assistants, nursery workers, nursery managers and local authorities.

Our policy work

Coram PACEY represents its members to policymakers at all levels of government, working to ensure that members' needs and views are taken into account and ensure children get the best start in life.

From campaigning on ratios and regulations, to responding to government consultations, Coram PACEY works with national and local government in England and Wales to help shape and influence early years policy.

We're also commissioned by local and national government to provide services to early years professionals, including training for childminders and promoting childcare as a profession. We also offer a specific package of support to local childcare providers through local authorities.



Our key policy asks

1 A universal, national funded programme of childminder pre-registration support.

2 Accessible post-registration support to enable professional growth of childminders and mechanisms to reduce isolation and provide emotional support.

3 Funding systems and payments that are fair and sustainable.

4 A clear, consistent approach to reducing barriers and enabling childminders to deliver funded high-quality childcare and early education in Wales.

5 Reform of the current rule that excludes non-parental relatives from providing funded childcare to related children in England.

6 An obligation on all local authorities to audit existing wraparound provision in their area and avoid undermining childminder provision.

7 Improvements to the Universal Credit system to allow for the unique working context of childminders.

8 A joined-up, national approach to define and clarify local planning, commercial waste and environmental health requirements for childminders to reduce the burden felt by childminders.

9 A long-term strategy for early education and childcare that understands the unique value of childminders and puts them at the centre of addressing the unequal access that is currently leaving disadvantaged children, including those with SEND/ALN, missing out.



Find out more about Coram PACEY's policy work and key asks in our 'Manifesto for Childminders'

<https://www.pacey.org.uk/about/our-policy-work/>

Our impact

100,000

We reach nearly 100,000 children and their families ensuring their providers can give them the best start in life.

70 PERCENT

Nearly 70% of our members provide wraparound care, allowing parents the flexibility to work.

SEND/ALN

Our members change the lives of children and are often the best placed to provide care and education for children with SEND/ALN.

85 PERCENT

85% of members said that PACEY helps raise the profile of, and improves knowledge of, the role of childcare and early years professionals.



POLICY

Coram PACEY has influenced policy and practice across England and Wales making a significant positive impact on those working in the sector.

DISADVANTAGED CHILDREN

With our support, our providers care for some of the most disadvantaged children in England and Wales.

How we support childminders

Pre-registration

- Working with government and local authorities on strategies to recruit new childminders to the workforce.
- Careers advice and career pathway support via our library of resources on our website.
- Coram PACEY's pre-registration training- our Level 3 Award in Preparing to Work in Home-Based Childcare (HBCA) is the most comprehensive qualification to help you cover everything you need to begin a career in home-based childcare as a childminder or nanny in England.
- We have built an online community to support those joining the profession. Our Facebook group 'First steps to childminding' has 4.4k members.

Post-registration

- Coram PACEY members get FREE bite-sized online training on topics including SEND/ALN, maths, transitions, creative arts, physical development, and many more. There are over 75 courses for England members.
- Coram PACEY hosts in-person events and online webinars for both members and non-members. Our events are aimed at getting early years providers together to support each other.
- We have hundreds of business and practice resources- information, advice and guidance that we share with members and non-members.
- We work tirelessly with government to improve working conditions for childminders to retain a skilled and passionate workforce.

How local authorities can support childminders

Recruitment

Local authorities play a pivotal role in recruiting new childminders to the profession. There are proactive things you can do to help increase overall childminder numbers.

- Hold online, accessible, pre-registration sessions with those thinking of becoming a childminder, including ongoing support until registration.
- Introduce ‘Becoming a childminder’ workshops - can you involve experienced childminders to inspire others?
- Attend careers fairs and community events to promote childminding as a professional career.
- Make sure there is a central point of information on your main website that is up-to-date and prioritised.
- Develop energising campaign materials (posters, leaflets and social media content) to promote childminding as a career.
- Share materials with partner agencies, stakeholders and on the ground with baby and parents’ groups, even in supermarkets!
- How can you support with start-up costs? From pre-registration training, health certificates, DBS checks and registration fees. If we want to increase the number of childminders joining the profession, they need support with the up-front costs.

How local authorities can support childminders

Retention

Childminders are an important childcare option for children and their families. We have to do more to support them to slow the decline and ensure childminders continue to be a viable option for years to come. Local authorities can:

- Provide on-going contact and support for childminders by making visits and other ways to touch base.
- Work with sufficiency officers to identify areas of need and share that information with childminders.
- Help childminders promote their business - does the local authority website make it easy for parents to find the right childminder?
- Actively include childminders in government policy plans, such as wraparound childcare.
- Streamline and simplify the online funding portal - time is precious and admin tasks should be quick and easy.



**Find out more
about recruiting
and retaining
childminders in
your area.**



How local authorities can support childminders

Retention (continued)

- Include childminders in the same conversation and space as other early years remits - make them feel valued.
- Bring childminders together and build a sense of community by hosting childminder networking events (outside of working hours!).
- Help with CPD costs - provide free or discounted training (in-person or online).
- Support and encourage childminders to grow their business - how can they use capital grants or childminder flexibilities (England-only) to their advantage?
- Sponsor a childminder - As a quality partner, local authorities can pay for a childminder's Coram PACEY membership which includes insurance and training for one year.



Coram PACEY Memberships

Our memberships are designed to support early years providers and the incredible work they do.



Assistant

For childminding assistants and nursery workers



Practitioner

For registered childminders, and nannies



Manager

For nursery managers/ owners and their staff

With each membership tailored to your needs and including benefits centred around:



Insurance



Training



Advice



Products



Policy & Updates

Do you work for a local authority?

You can either purchase a quality partner membership for yourself to have access to all our resources or, you can purchase a quality start membership for a childminder in your area.



[Explore all Coram PACEY memberships](#)

Coram PACEY Connect

Coram PACEY Connect is a package of services designed to help local authorities, boroughs and other key partners support childcare and early years professionals in their area.

Coram PACEY Connect offers support that is: flexible, tailored to your local need, available virtually and delivered by early years and childcare experts.

What services can Coram PACEY Connect provide?

-  Pre-registration support
-  Professional development and training
-  Consultancy support
-  Promotion of quality childcare



We can support you with your ongoing recruitment and retention of childminders through a wide variety of services.



Find out more about the services we offer through PACEY Connect.

<https://www.pacey.org.uk/get-involved/pacey-connect/>



CORAM PACEY (previously the Professional Association for Childcare and Early Years)

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