

## Top Tips When Looking for Childcare

- What do you want from your childcare provider? – What are you looking for, what are the hours you need, do you want a home environment or a group setting?
- Make an appointment and have a look around, don't forget to take your child with you and see what they think! Visit a few settings as they all offer something different.
- What are the security arrangements? Is the building and are the children safe?
- Is the setting clean?
- How does staff interact with the children and what are they doing?
- Is there enough staff to keep the children happy and busy? Do they meet the Ofsted guidelines for staff ratio and qualifications?
- How will they follow your baby's/child's routine and will your child be allocated a key person?
- What do Ofsted think about the setting, can you view their latest Ofsted report?
- Are children calm and happy, are they talking and playing together?
- Do parents/carers have plenty of opportunity to communicate with the staff about their child's development and learning
- Is there enough equipment to keep the children interested and engaged?
- Is there enough indoor and outdoor space for the children to play and have fun?
- What foods and drink are offered to the children, what times are they offered?
- What arrangements are in place to support home links and transitions into school?