

WHAT DO I LOOK FOR? ... WHAT CAN I EXPECT?

When you do go into a day care center, you should see a license (either blue or pink) posted up in a conspicuous location. The license will specify the name and address of the facility, the permitted capacity, age range and hours of operation. (If any of this information conflicts with what you observe, you should notify the Department of Children and Families or Naples Alliance for Children immediately.)

- ◆ A **blue license** is a regular annual license.
- ◆ A **pink license** is a provisional license, which signifies that some element of licensing process has not been completed. The reasons for the provisional status will be printed on the license.
- ◆ If there is **no license**, you should inquire under what authority they are operating and with whom they are affiliated.

There are many standards, which a licensed child care facility must meet to provide a health, safe and risk free environment for your child. Although the standards are too numerous to mention, here are a few basic things each parent should be able to easily observe:

- ◆ **Cleanliness**
- ◆ **A safe physical environment both inside and out**
- ◆ **Good health practices**
- ◆ **Good supervision and adequate staff**
- ◆ **Good communication with Parent**
- ◆ **Adequate toys and activities.**

IMPORTANT TO KNOW

- ◆ **Day Car Files are “Public Record”.** You are not only welcome, but encouraged to come review the licensing files for the inspections, complaints or administrative actions of the licensed facilities that concern you.
- ◆ **All Child care Programs should be Smoke-Free**
- ◆ **Programs and Educational content is are not a focus of regulation.** As a parent you must observe and evaluate the appropriateness and stimulations the program affords your child. Look for quality care.
- ◆ **Problems, questions or concerns?**
 - Contact the **DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES DAY CARE LICENSING UNIT** at 338-1341 or 643-9973 and: www.myflorida.com/childcare.
 - Call Naples Alliance for Children at 649-5260

*Information in this section provided by Florida Department of Children and Families, District Eight Day Care Licensing Unit

