

NCMA's vision  
is that every child  
reaches their  
full potential



Our  
members  
have a  
lot to  
be proud  
about

and we would  
like to share  
the good news

72%

of NCMA members  
received a "good"  
or "outstanding"  
grade in their most  
recent inspection

79%

of NCMA members  
had undertaken  
childcare training  
in the previous year

89%

of NCMA members  
expect to still be  
practising childcare  
in 12 months' time

## putting children at the heart of home-based childcare

NCMA (the National Childminding Association) is the only national charity and professional association that works to support registered childminders and nannies across England and Wales. Over the last year, it has been a privilege to support our members in carrying out the valuable work they do every day with children and families.

### Some things you didn't know about NCMA...

→ We are updating our safeguarding strategy as part of our commitment to promoting the safety and welfare of children within the home-based sector

→ We have gained an internationally recognised standard for internal quality management (ISO9001 accreditation)

→ We have business continuity plans in place to ensure that we can continue to offer our services if faced with disruptive events



# raising quality

**NCMA works hard to raise quality in the home-based childcare sector. We do this by supporting registered childminders and nannies in a variety of ways, including coordinating childminding networks at a local level, delivering training through distance learning and via tutors, and carrying out charitable work that allows our members to access funding for training.**

# 59%

of local authorities are currently operating childminding networks

NCMA has tutors across England and Wales who are

# approved to deliver

home-based childcare training

## Raising quality... through networks

A childminding network is a group of registered childminders, supported by a network coordinator. Networks can enable childminders to offer the government-funded early years education entitlement to families. A network can also offer childcare and family support services, including caring for children of teenage parents while they return to work or training, providing respite care, or specialist support services for disabled children and their families. NCMA works at a national and local level to ensure every local authority in England and Wales funds a childminding network.

## Success story

Childminders on the award-winning Doncaster Childminding Network specialise in providing high quality care for disabled children and children with additional requirements. Run by NCMA, and funded as part of a contract with Doncaster local authority, the network has been able to improve outcomes for children by offering an inclusive and personalised service, adapted to the individual needs of each child.

Annette, a childminder in a suburb of Doncaster, is positive about being part of the network, "several children within my setting have specific learning requirements, and as a member of a professionally recognised network with access to training opportunities I am able to provide a higher quality service to the parents and the children."

## Raising quality... through funding

NCMA's Gail Hall Memorial Fund provides funding for our members to take training in caring and working with disabled children and children with special educational needs. Last year our fund paid for training courses for 28 childminders.

Thanks to the Gail Hall Memorial Fund, I am now confident in my ability to meet the needs of a child with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD).

Sarah, registered childminder, London

## We will continue to:

→ Support our members with the introduction of the new Level 3 Diploma so that they have training that is tailored to home-based childcare

→ Encourage members to continue to raise the quality of their practice, and support them by providing information and advice

→ Work with local authorities to ensure more childminders have access to a network in their area, allowing them to provide effective support to children and families



# delivering through partnership

Last year NCMA worked with

# 172

out of 174 local authorities

Last year NCMA ran projects in England and Wales, delivering over

# £10m

home-based childcare services

NCMA is continually striving to develop links and partnerships with central government, local authorities and other relevant organisations. It is through partnership working that we can help to deliver quality local childcare and early education for children and families. By working in partnership with government and regulators we are able to ensure that the needs of registered childminders and nannies are represented.

## Working with disabled children

Childminders are ideally placed to look after disabled children. They can provide one-to-one care, or care in small groups, and can benefit from the support offered by a community childminding network. Overall, 16% of NCMA members are caring for disabled children or children with special educational needs.

## Success story

Buckinghamshire Community Childminding Network (BCCN) is a partnership project between NCMA and Buckinghamshire County Council. The Network supports the diverse needs of vulnerable children and families, including disabled children, vulnerable teenagers and children who are considered to be at risk by social services. Each childminder on the network has their own areas of specialism, but all agree that the strong support they receive from each other and their NCMA network coordinator is invaluable.

The network recently won an award in recognition of the work they do, and Laraine, the NCMA network coordinator was delighted, "winning the award was a huge achievement, which we are so proud of, but the real achievement is the work that the childminders do on a daily basis to help the children and families in their community."

All local authorities should have a community childminding network. I don't know how social services coped without us!

Debbie, registered childminder, Buckinghamshire



## We will continue to:

→ Help local and national government to understand the value of home-based childcare through face-to-face meetings and lobbying

→ Work to ensure that national governments and policy makers reflect home-based childcare in their strategies

→ Help families to make informed choices about the best type of care for their child

# supporting our members

# 82%

of NCMA members said that they would be "very likely" to recommend NCMA

Last year NCMA answered over

# 95,000

calls, including queries from our members, local authorities and parents

**Our members are important to us, and we support them in a variety of ways. We have a dedicated helpline which supports our members with issues related to registered childminding and nannying. We lobby on behalf of our members at a national level in England and Wales to help ensure that their views are taken into account. We listen to our members through NCMA-organised forums, and work to promote the professional service that registered childminders and nannies provide.**

## Help when you need it

It is important to us that we represent our members and campaign on issues that our members feel strongly about. As well as offering information and advice through our helplines, our members are able to attend regional meetings and seek support from regional staff across England and Wales.

To have somebody you can ring for that expert, impartial advice when you need it is invaluable.

Gary, registered childminder, West Yorkshire



## Valuing our volunteers

NCMA's work is shaped by our members, and our volunteers play a crucial role in helping members to share their views with us through regional forums and committees. Regional Forums are held three times a year and are open to all NCMA members. Our volunteers work hard to encourage as many members as possible to attend as they are an opportunity for members to discuss the issues that affect them, and make suggestions for issues that NCMA should investigate.

## Celebrating the profession

Once a year, NCMA holds an annual conference. It is a great opportunity for some of our members to hear from speakers, take part in practical workshops and discuss the issues affecting them through the policy debate.

I always come away from the NCMA conference feeling really motivated – both professionally and personally – with lots of ideas to use in my setting.

Julie, registered childminder

## We will continue to:

→ Ensure we are meeting the needs of our members by reviewing the products and services that we offer

→ Work with our volunteers to ensure that NCMA has strong systems in place to listen to our members

→ Lobby on the issues that our members feel strongly about

For further information visit [www.ncma.org.uk](http://www.ncma.org.uk) or call 0845 880 0044