



NCMA Annual Review 2010/11

Our values are:

- a commitment to children, their rights, wellbeing and development
- inclusion and equality of opportunity
- membership involvement
- a commitment to high-quality services
- empowerment of all registered childminders and nannies to develop as excellent practitioners.

84%

of childminder members and

79%

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

Popular member benefits

Our 2011 membership survey revealed your favourite member benefits:

- **Who Minds?** magazine was rated as "excellent" or "good" by 95 per cent of our childminder members and 90 per cent of nanny members
- NCMA paperwork was rated as excellent or good by 93 per cent of our childminder members and 96 per cent of nanny members
- NCMA's public liability insurance was rated as "excellent" or "good" by 97 per cent of our childminder members and 94 per cent of nanny members.

Supporting our members

NCMA is a national charity and the professional association for registered childminders and nannies. NCMA members include registered childminders, nannies, over 7s childminders and quality partners.

Over the last year, NCMA has worked to improve the services we offer our members, as well as how people can manage their NCMA membership:

- members can now pay by Direct Debit
- members can access a wide range of information and support through the My NCMA members' only area of www.ncma.org.uk
- new and updated factsheets are available to support members to deliver their service
- NCMA training is now available through a variety of learning methods, including online courses, to cater to the flexibility required by some members
- we have continued to listen to the views of our members through regular Product Advisory Groups, Regional Forums and the Annual Policy Debate
- a refreshed product range for members is available at the NCMA online shop.





Working in partnership...



...with local authorities

As well as working closely with childcare professionals and families, NCMA has strengthened partnerships with local authorities, working closely together to achieve common goals. NCMA's work with local authorities has resulted in a number of successful projects.

These include:

- childminder involvement in the pilots of early education entitlement for disadvantaged 2-year-olds
- the delivery of services such as Disabled Children's Access to Childcare (DCATCH), part of the government's Aiming High for Disabled Children initiative.

In March 2011, NCMA was successful in securing two years of DfE funding for the creation and piloting of local peer support networks, as part of its work to drive forward NCMA's commitment to members.

...with Government



An NCMA member at the Senedd in Cardiff

Among the most significant policy developments in England this year was a review of the Early Years Foundation Stage



NCMA members at Westminster

Among the most significant policy developments in England this year was a review of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) and NCMA and its members were greatly involved in informing this review.

NCMA's part in influencing the EYFS was a significant achievement on behalf of our members in 2010/11. We effectively represented the views and concerns of our members and supported groups of members to directly engage in the review process.

When the review was published in March 2011, it clearly reflected the feedback NCMA had given, demonstrating that our members' concerns about paperwork, and the importance of continuing to deliver the EYFS as a single framework alongside other providers had been heard.

In Wales, NCMA Cymru played a key role in influencing the Welsh Assembly Government's consultation on its Child Poverty Strategy and Delivery plan. During 2010, NCMA Cymru submitted a detailed response to The Welsh Assembly Government's proposed Child Poverty Strategy for Wales.

When the strategy was published, it focused on the key role that childcare can play not only for children, but also in supporting parents into employment, as well as recognising the role the sector itself can play in providing a route into training and employment. All three of these points were raised by NCMA Cymru during the consultation.



NCMA developed an engagement tool to help children's centre staff work more effectively

...with children's centres

NCMA developed an engagement tool to help children's centre staff work more effectively with local childminders. An activity funded by NCMA's Department for Education (DfE) strategic grant, it gave information and guidance on how children's centres can develop effective plans to work with the childminders in their area.

The children's centre engagement tool is available on www.ncma.org.uk



Right: A childminder and child at a local children's centre

Valuing our volunteers

The forums would not be possible without the support of NCMA's volunteer community



Volunteers play many vital roles in NCMA's work.

The Annual Volunteer Conference was held in Kenilworth in June 2010. Volunteers had the opportunity to network and attend workshops on promoting childcare and membership.

NCMA Regional Forums continue to be a popular way for members to engage with NCMA in their local community. The forums would not be possible without the support of NCMA's volunteer community and NCMA would like to thank these people who give their time freely and in doing so make an invaluable contribution to the organisation.



Raising quality

NCMA works continuously to improve the information, advice and support our members receive via their NCMA membership. We do this by working to ensure all childminders and nannies have access to relevant training and professional development opportunities. Research shows the more qualified a childcarer is, the higher the quality of the care they provide to the children they care for. Two key introductions from NCMA over the last year have been the home-based unit of the Level 3 Diploma (CYPOP5) and enhanced safeguarding guidance and training.

The home-based unit

The delivery of the home-based childcare unit in England forms part of the Level 3 Diploma for the Children and Young People's Workforce. An accompanying textbook, produced by Heinemann and endorsed by NCMA, has also been published to support learning on the course. At March 2011 there were already 1,600 individual learners signed up to the home-based unit.



51%
of NCMA childminder members and

62%
of NCMA nanny members have achieved a childcare qualification at level 3 or above.

74%
of NCMA childminders received "good" or "outstanding" Ofsted results; an increase of

17%

in two years.

Safeguarding

Over the last year, NCMA updated its safeguarding strategy to guide its work through to 2013. To support this, NCMA:

- produced a series of safeguarding factsheets for members, volunteers and staff
- produced guidance for all Local Authority Safeguarding Children's Boards (LSCBs) in England
- introduced an online safeguarding training course.



All this complements the existing allegations and complaints service NCMA provides to its members.

Looking to the future

During 2010/11 NCMA communicated with members in order to understand what you value about the organisation, the challenges you felt the profession faced and what more NCMA could do to support you. This has led to a

new vision that will guide NCMA's work over the next three years.

NCMA's new vision is that all our members provide the highest standards of care and learning for children. This new vision responds to members' feedback

that you wish to be supported to achieve high standards of professionalism, to continue to do the best job possible for the children in your care and to have greater recognition for your professionalism.