



Home-Based Child Care vs. Daycare Centres

How Do They Compare?

Choosing the best daycare for your child is one of the most difficult decisions a parent has to make. When deciding who is best to look after their child, many parents explore home-based child care, daycare centres or a friend or relative. If you are looking for **licensed, monitored child care**, this chart compares a daycare centre to the quality of licensed home-based child care provided by **Wee Watch**.

ABOUT WEE WATCH

Wee Watch has been providing reliable, quality, licensed home-based child care since 1984.

Wee Watch offers full and part-time care for children six weeks to twelve years of age.

www.weewatch.com



DAYCARE CENTRES	WEE WATCH LICENSED HOME-BASED CHILD CARE
Setting/Location	Setting/Location
Separated by Age	Home-based setting
More than one caregiver per day	Siblings can stay together
May not be convenient location	Choice of homes in neighbourhood
Institutional setting	Usually near schools
Schedule/Hours	Schedule/Hours
Set hours	Full and part-time days
Limited part-time or flexible hours	Flexible hours (some agencies offer extended hours)
Ages & Ratios	Ages & Ratios
Some infant care to school-age	Infant to school-age
Limited infant space	Infant spaces always available
Large number of children per group	No more than 6 children under 6
Max. 10 infants per 3 staff	No more than 2 children under 2 years
Daycare Staff	Child Care Providers
Trained - high turnover, different staff caring for child	Trained - choice of child care Provider
Daily Program	Daily Program
Structured routine	Flexible routine
Focus on group activities	Learning program tailored to individual needs & age
	CLICK HERE to learn more about our Wee Watch Home-based child care program
Lunch/Snacks	Lunch/Snacks
Follow Canada's Food Guide	Follow Canada's Food Guide
Set menus, sometimes outside caterers	Parents consulted on menus
Health	Health
Large number of children	Limited number of children
More exposure to illness	Fewer illnesses
Cost	Cost
Can be expensive; subsidy	Lower cost; subsidy
Tax receipts	Tax receipts
Licensed Monitoring	Licensed Monitoring
Ministry of Education - annually	Ministry of Education - annually, Monthly Home visits by RECE