



Choosing a Daycare

Resources:



[Choosing Quality Childcare](#)



[What Daycare Providers Need to Know](#)



[O.U.R Children's Safety Project](#)



[EI and Childcare](#)

Considerations for a child who is deaf/hard of hearing (d/hh):

Getting Started:

- Make a list of local daycares that are convenient.
- Call them, and ask about waiting lists.
- Schedule daycare tours.

An inclusive program will...

- Have an accepting social environment.
- Provide opportunities for children using different communication modes to learn from each other.
- Provide opportunities for children from different cultures to learn from each other.
- Support and promote all friendships.

Questions to ask when considering daycare providers:

- Is the facility comfortable with or willing to learn how the device(s) work (if amplification is used)?
- Will there be a point person for the device(s)?
 - Create a plan with the daycare for special activity days (such as water park days).
 - Consider providing the daycare with a picture of the device with parts labeled, in case of missing or broken parts.
- Are providers willing to learn your child's communication mode and adjust their communication accordingly?
 - Are they willing to teach it to others?
- Do they recognize the need to accommodate your child's needs?
- Do they foster an accepting and inclusive environment?
- What are the acoustics like in the setting?
- How many children are in one space at a time?
- Will your child have a quiet space to retreat to, if overstimulated?
- Will your child be able to receive therapies at daycare?

Narrowing it Down:

- Consider the timeframe of availability, affordability, hours, distance, staff training policies, etc.
- Will they accommodate your child's needs?
- Do they have experience serving children who are d/hh?
- Are they considerate of serving children with differences?
- Have they addressed your concerns?
- Which environment best meets the needs of your child?
- Go with your gut, you know what is best for your family!