

Beware bogus inspectors (25/08/10)

National Child Minding Association (NCMA) has been made aware that some childminders have been contacted or visited by people saying they are from Ofsted or one of the new inspection service providers. The caller may ask for details about the childminder and setting and also ask if they can visit prior to inspecting them.

If contacted by someone who says they are from Ofsted, Tribal Services Plc or Prospects Service Ltd and you have doubts as to their legitimacy, do not give any personal details out. A genuine inspector should be able to read your details to you for confirmation.

Ask for the caller's full name, their organisation and tell them you are ending the call to check their authenticity. If at the door, carry out your usual checks e.g. requesting an ID card or asking them to wait while you call their head office number.

Phone Ofsted on 0300 123 1231 and ask if the person is an employee or someone from one of its inspection service providers.

http://www.ncma.org.uk/news_and_events/news/july_to_december_2010/beware_bogus_inspectors.aspx