

DBS checks - the new rules (Sept 2013)

Childminders in England who already have a CRB check (or who are police checked under the previous social services system) do **NOT** need to renew. The rules are different in Scotland and Wales - I am talking about England here.

New DBS disclosures will be needed for (among others) new partners moving into your house, assistants or volunteers working on your premises and your own children who turn 16. They cost £44 plus Capita's handling fee - £52 at present (09.2013).

All Ofsted DBS checks are processed online by Capita and Ofsted will not process any paper DBS applications -

<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/news/changes-way-ofsted-processes-dbs-formerly-crb-checks>.

Providing evidence - one document must be provided from group 1 and a further 2 documents must also be provided from either group 1 or group 2a or group 2b - so 3 documents in total. This requirement is clarified here -

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/dbs-identity-checking-guidelines>

Group 1 documents -

- Passport - current and valid
- UK Biometric residence permit
- UK current driving licence photo and counterpart
- UK birth certificate issued within 12 months of birth
- Adoption certificate

Note that if you cannot provide the necessary documents from group 1 then you must provide 1 document from group 2a AND 2 other documents from either group 2a or 2b...

Group 2a -

- Current UK driving licence - old style paper version
- Current photo driving licence (non UK licence)
- UK birth certificate - issued longer than 12 months after birth
- UK marriage certificate
- UK adoption certificate
- UK HM forces ID card
- UK firearms licence

Group 2b -

- Mortgage statement
- Bank statement
- Bank opening confirmation
- Credit card statement
- Financial statement (pension or endowment)
- P45 or P60
- Council tax statement
- Work permit or visa
- Utility bill
- Benefit statement
- Central or local government agency or local council document giving entitlement – this includes the National Insurance number card / letter but it must be within 3 months of issue
- EU national ID card
- Cards carrying the PASS accreditation logo
- Letter from head teacher or college principle

Note that previously it has been acceptable to provide a National Insurance Number for 16 year olds - this has now disappeared from the group 2 list.

There is another option if you cannot provide 3 documents - it is explained on the DBS website online and involves providing 5 documents - a birth certificate plus 1 document from group 2a and 3 further documents from group 2a or 2b.

If your 16 year old does not have a passport you might find yourself struggling to provide the evidence which is required from group 1. Therefore, if your teenager is coming up to the age of 16 it is advised that you consider how you are going to provide evidence - and plan ahead. You might find, for example, that these 3 pieces of evidence can be provided instead of a passport -

- Birth certificate - issued within 12 months of birth
- Bank account
- Letter from their school or college

However, if you cannot provide the birth certificate because, for example, your child is adopted then you need to take further advice. There is information about how to contact the DBS here -

<https://www.gov.uk/disclosure-barring-service-check/contact-disclosure-and-barring-service>

This is the dreadful bit and the reason why you **MUST** plan ahead - if Ofsted cannot determine the suitability of your 16 year old they will be deemed 'unsuitable' - and you will lose your business because Ofsted do not allow unsuitable adults on the premises.