

Safe After School

Information for parents

Choosing a private tutor, coach or independent after school club? Some things to consider...

There are many reasons why a parent might want to employ a tutor or send their child to an independent after school activity or club. It may be to help their child improve potential exam grades, to assist with schoolwork in general, to learn a musical instrument, to play a sport or to study religious texts.



It is important for parents and carers to know that there are no regulations governing tutors or many after school activities (unless it is an Ofsted registered childcare provision).

While many tutors and coaches are skilled at developing a child's learning and development in a particular subject, they do not need qualifications to work in this field. In fact, a person can be

barred from teaching or commit an offence which makes them unsuitable to work with children yet still offer their services as a tutor or coach.

Local authorities and schools cannot provide a list of approved professionals who work as tutors or coaches. Therefore, it is the parents' responsibility to make sure the tutor is qualified and does not pose a risk to their child.

High quality tutors, coaches, clubs and organisations will always welcome questions about their activities, the safety of their environment and care of your child.

Questions you may want to ask:

- Does the activity/class/club have a website or leaflet I can read?
- How long has the activity/class/club been operating?
- How many staff support the activity?
- How many children and young people attend?
- Does the location, travel and the timing of the activity work for my child and family?
- Can I visit the session before my child starts and stay to observe the sessions my child attends?
- Can I see their DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service) certificate?
- Can I read a copy of the policy on safeguarding children?
- Can I read a copy of the health and safety policy?



- Can I have a copy of the code of conduct for staff, volunteers and children?
- Are all staff trained in safeguarding and first aid?
- What emergency procedures are in place?
- Who do I speak to if I have any concerns?

For more information about services to support you as a parent or carer, visit www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/parentfamilysupport

To search for activities and services for you and your family, visit the Local Offer at www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/LocalOffer