

Childcare: children aged 2.5 years and over

# CARE FOR CHILDREN IN THEIR FREE TIME: WHAT ACTIVITIES FOR YOUR CHILD?



ONE.be

Who can inform me? • What is the role of the ONE? • ...

## Free time care (FTS)

Outside of school and the time they spend with their families, children over 2.5 years of age can participate in many activities.

### The different activities include:

- Specialised cultural, artistic, and sporting activities: these aim, among other things, to acquire a skill or aptitude (music academies, sports clubs, dance classes, nature activities, etc.).
- Diversified (multidimensional) activities: they offer children a care that takes into account their overall development, without seeking to perform. These include after-school care, holiday centres and home-work schools, which fall within the competence of the ONE.

### Examples:



## The role of the ONE

The ONE accompanies, controls, approves, recognises, and subsidises extracurricular care, holiday centres and homework schools that so wish. They then undertake to comply with the criteria set out in the regulations, which include quality and accessibility.

All childcare facilities for children aged 0-12 must comply with the quality code and have a care project.

Homework schools



Extracurricular care



Holiday centres



## Extracurricular care

Extracurricular care is the before and after school care of children from 2.5 to 12 years and older, mainly in nursery and primary schools, but also in specific outdoor locations.

The activities offered take into account the needs and rhythms of the children. Supervised by professionals (m/f/x), the child chooses according to his or her desires from among all the organised activities (reading corner, board games, crafts, etc.).

Childcare operators can apply to the ONE for approval and financial support if they commit to a process of developing the quality of their care, through :

- accessibility by time and continuity with school time,
- adapted supervision under the direction of a project manager,
- basic and continuous training for all supervisory staff,
- a care project that complies with the Care Quality Code,
- participation in the Commune's coordination dynamics through the CLE programme (local coordination for children).

The approved activities remain financially accessible.

**The extracurricular host (m/f/x)** is a fundamental link between the school and the family, as well as between the children. He/she endeavours to offer them, by his/her presence and action, a reassuring living space adapted to their needs. He/she supervises them through the proposed activities, leaving an important place to their initiative and respecting the notion of free time.





As a parent, choosing and finding activities for your children during the school holidays is a challenge. Among the many vacation care offers, give preference to those that are approved as “holiday centres”.

The organisers have committed themselves to respecting different criteria: qualification of the leaders, having a care project that starts from the children’s needs and offering varied activities...

In addition, this approval means that the ONE monitors and supports these centres.

### There are three types of holiday centres:

- **Plains:** organised throughout the day with a return home at the end of the afternoon, the plains often take place in the child’s local environment.
- **Stays:** organised as a residential stay, such as a departure for several days at the sea, in the countryside, in Belgium or abroad, stays guarantee strong and enriching collective moments.
- **Les camps:** les enfants inscrits dans une section locale de mouvement de jeunesse partent faire un « grand camp » durant l’été.

More information on the approved organisers in your region and their programme of activities can be found at [www.centres-de-vacances.be](http://www.centres-de-vacances.be) or through your local FTS coordinator.

## Homework schools

Homework schools (EDD) support your child's learning and academic success by developing educational, pedagogical, creative, playful, sporting, and cultural activities. Children are welcomed from the age of 6 to 12, 15 or sometimes 18 years old.

EDD aims to combat exclusion in general and to promote the social integration of children and young people.

EDD facilitates the link between the school and you.

Your participation as a parent will be sought.

A great deal of importance will be attached to the effective participation of children and young people in the choice and implementation of activities. The activities are organised in a spirit of cooperation, intercultural discovery, and citizenship education.

The animation teams are often composed of many volunteers.

The ONE grants recognition to EDDs, which therefore limit the financial contribution to €2 per day per child and €4 during the holidays (these amounts are indexed annually), but they are very often free.





Communes that wish to do so can become involved in a coordination process for children's reception during their free time (FTS).

The aim is to develop the sector, improve the quality of reception and coordinate the care offer on the communal territory, in order to best meet the identified needs of families, children and professionals (m/f/x).

Every 5 years, these municipalities draw up a CLE (local coordination for children) programme to find solutions to the problems encountered in free-time care.

To achieve this, all those involved in the FTS meet regularly in a Communal Reception Committee (CCA). Families are also represented via parents' associations and via permanent education movements such as the Ligue des Familles, Vie Féminine, Femmes Prévoyantes, etc.

**The FTS Coordinator (m/f/x)** within the Commune, gathers, supports, informs, creates links between the actors concerned and provides you with information on the existing care offer. Do not hesitate to contact him or her.

You can find their contact details on the ONE website ([www.one.be](http://www.one.be)) or directly from your local authority.

# CHILDREN'S CARE DURING THEIR FREE TIME

## WHAT ACTIVITIES FOR YOUR CHILD?

EDITOR IN CHARGE

Benoît PARMENTIER

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### The Free Time Care facility near you ...

More information can be obtained from your local FTS coordinator, [www.one.be](http://www.one.be), [www.centres-de-vacances.be](http://www.centres-de-vacances.be) or on the website of your local authority.



OFFICE  
DE LA NAISSANCE  
ET DE L'ENFANCE

Office of Birth  
and Childhood

Chaussée de Charleroi 95 - 1060 Brussels  
Tel. : +32 (0) 2 542 12 11 / Fax : + 32 (0) 2 542 12 51  
[info@one.be](mailto:info@one.be) - [one.be](http://one.be)

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