

# Sonia Moyles Child Minding

Dunfermline

**Type of inspection:**  
Unannounced

**Completed on:**  
25 November 2025

**Service provided by:**  
Sonia Moyles

**Service provider number:**  
SP2004939468

**Service no:**  
CS2004079565

## About the service

Sonia Moyles operates a childminding service from their home in a residential area of Dunfermline, Fife. They are registered to provide care for a maximum of six children of whom no more than six are under 12 years; of whom no more than three are not yet attending primary school and; of whom no more than one is under 12 months. Numbers include the children of the childminder's family/household. Minded children can only be cared for by persons named on the certificate.

Children have access to a dedicated playroom, kitchen, toilet and living room which are all on the same level. At the time of inspection children did not have access to the enclosed outdoor area to the rear of the property. The service is close to the local primary school, shops, parks and other amenities.

## About the inspection

This was an unannounced inspection which took place on Tuesday 25 November 2025. The inspection was carried out by one inspector from the Care Inspectorate.

To prepare for the inspection we reviewed information about this service. This included previous inspection findings, registration and complaints information, information submitted by the service and intelligence gathered throughout the inspection year.

To inform our evaluation we:

- spoke with children in the service
- received two completed questionnaires from families
- spoke with the childminder
- observed practice and interactions with children
- assessed core assurances, including the physical environment
- reviewed documents.

As part of our inspections, we assess core assurances. Core assurances are checks we make to ensure children are safe, the physical environment is well maintained and that a service is operating legally. At the time of this inspection, improvements were identified relating to core assurances. We have reported where improvement is necessary within Leadership.

## Key messages

- Children experienced a kind, respectful and nurturing approach to their care and support.
- Transitions before and after school were well-managed, helping children feel secure.
- Children's achievements were acknowledged and celebrated within the service.
- Children were having fun and were engaged in their play and learning.
- The childminder had established positive, trusting and consistent relationships with children and their families.

## From this inspection we evaluated this service as:

In evaluating quality, we use a six point scale where 1 is unsatisfactory and 6 is excellent

Leadership	4 - Good
Children play and learn	5 - Very Good
Children are supported to achieve	5 - Very Good

Further details on the particular areas inspected are provided at the end of this report.

## Leadership 4 - Good

We evaluated this quality indicator as good, where there were important strengths within the setting's work and some aspects which could benefit from improvement.

### Leadership and management of staff and resources

The childminder's vision, values, and aims were clearly focused on providing a safe, happy, and fun environment for children. These were evident through warm, respectful interactions observed during the inspection, which created a nurturing ethos where children felt secure and valued. Children told us they enjoyed attending the service. One child said, "Sonia is nice and has lots of fun things for us to do."

The childminder used a range of approaches to communicate and gather feedback from families and children, including daily conversations, text messaging, and questionnaires. Their views were taken into account as the childminder identified areas for future improvements. This meant families were meaningfully involved in shaping the service, and helped to create strong connections between the service and home.

The childminder demonstrated a reflective approach to quality assurance and self-evaluation, which supported them to identify areas for development. For example, repairs to be carried out in the garden space at the rear of the property. The garden area was not in use during the inspection. This did not affect children's experiences because care was provided for short periods of time, before and after school, during term time. The childminder also made effective use of local community resources, including park visits, woodland areas, and daily walks to and from school. This ensured children benefitted from regular opportunities for physical exercise and fresh air.

## Children play and learn 5 - Very Good

We found major strengths in this aspect of the setting's work and identified very few areas for improvement; therefore, we evaluated this quality indicator as very good.

### Playing, learning and developing

The experienced childminder had a good understanding of how children learn and develop. They supported this by offering resources and activities that reflected children's interests, took account of their age, and stage of development, and provided suitable challenge. For example, during the inspection children were engaged and having fun as they played board games, including snakes and ladders. The childminder's respectful and effective questioning extended children's thinking and problem-solving skills. This helped to build confidence and independence.

Literacy and numeracy opportunities were naturally woven into everyday experiences, including conversations, activities, and visits to the nearby woodland area. Outings in the local community provided opportunities to promote children's curiosity and wonder about the world around them.

The childminder had created personal development plans for each child that identified realistic and achievable next steps. These were agreed in consultation with children and families, ensuring they were relevant to individual needs. Children were actively involved in reviewing their learning. Their views were recorded within plans, for example through comments or drawings such as smiley faces. This approach recognised children as individuals and supported them to achieve their potential.

Children's achievements from home, school, and extracurricular activities, were recognised and celebrated within the service. By showcasing artwork, certificates, and photographs, the childminder promoted children's pride and a strong sense of belonging.

## Children are supported to achieve 5 - Very Good

We found major strengths in this aspect of the setting's work and identified very few areas for improvement; therefore, we evaluated this quality indicator as very good.

### Nurturing care and support

Children experienced consistently warm, responsive and nurturing interactions which supported their emotional wellbeing. They appeared relaxed, happy and confident in the childminder's care. One child shared how they felt about the childminder, they told us, "She is kind and caring and beautiful."

The childminder had a very good understanding of the importance of smooth and supportive transitions for children. They recognised that these experiences could be different for each child and took account of personal preferences and personalities to ensure children were well supported. Positive relationships were evident, with children chatting and laughing. This highlighted the nurturing environment and strong friendships within the setting.

Families were very happy with the service provided. One parent told us, "Leaving our children with Sonia feels like leaving them with family - someone who really cares for our children and their wellbeing." Another family said, "It is apparent that Sonia cares about my child and has taken time to get to know them." As a result, children were relaxed and happy in a service that supported their overall wellbeing.

The childminder knew children very well, for example, their preferences and routines which helped them form meaningful connections and develop trust. The childminder had developed personal plans for all children in a way that worked well for the service, children and families. Important information was recorded, stored securely, and updated regularly. This meant that the care provided met the needs of individuals and respected the wishes of parents.

## What the service has done to meet any areas for improvement we made at or since the last inspection

### Areas for improvement

#### Previous area for improvement 1

To ensure children and families experience a service that is continuously developing and improving, the childminder should actively seek and record their views. These should be used, alongside the childminders reflections, to develop an improvement plan for the service.

This is to ensure that care and support is consistent with the Health and Social Care Standards (HSCS) which states that: 'I am actively encouraged to be involved in improving the service I use, in a spirit of genuine partnership.' (HSCS 4.7).

This is to ensure that care and support is consistent with the Health and Social Care Standards (HSCS) which states that: 'I benefit from a culture of continuous improvement, with the organisation having robust and transparent quality assurance processes.' (HSCS 4.19).

**This area for improvement was made on 27 September 2023.**

#### Action taken since then

The childminder had developed a variety of ways to gather and record feedback from children and families. Responses were reviewed, collated and considered to inform future development priorities for the service.

### Complaints

There have been no complaints upheld since the last inspection. Details of any older upheld complaints are published at [www.careinspectorate.com](http://www.careinspectorate.com).

## Detailed evaluations

Leadership	4 - Good
Leadership and management of staff and resources	4 - Good
Children play and learn	5 - Very Good
Playing, learning and developing	5 - Very Good
Children are supported to achieve	5 - Very Good
Nurturing care and support	5 - Very Good

## To find out more

This inspection report is published by the Care Inspectorate. You can download this report and others from our website.

Care services in Scotland cannot operate unless they are registered with the Care Inspectorate. We inspect, award grades and help services to improve. We also investigate complaints about care services and can take action when things aren't good enough.

Please get in touch with us if you would like more information or have any concerns about a care service.

You can also read more about our work online at [www.careinspectorate.com](http://www.careinspectorate.com)

## Contact us

Care Inspectorate  
Compass House  
11 Riverside Drive  
Dundee  
DD1 4NY

[enquiries@careinspectorate.com](mailto:enquiries@careinspectorate.com)

0345 600 9527

Find us on Facebook

Twitter: @careinspect

## Other languages and formats

This report is available in other languages and formats on request.

Tha am foillseachadh seo ri fhaighinn ann an cruthannan is cànan eile ma nithear iartras.

অনুরোধসাপেক্ষে এই প্রকাশনাটি অন্য ফরম্যাট এবং অন্যান্য ভাষায় পাওয়া যায়।

یہ اشاعت درخواست کرنے پر دیگر شکلوں اور دیگر زبانوں میں فراہم کی جاسکتی ہے۔

ਬੇਨਤੀ 'ਤੇ ਇਹ ਪ੍ਰਕਾਸ਼ਨ ਹੋਰ ਰੂਪਾਂ ਅਤੇ ਹੋਰਨਾਂ ਭਾਸ਼ਾਵਾਂ ਵਿਚ ਉਪਲਬਧ ਹੈ।

هذه الوثيقة متوفرة بلغات ونماذج أخرى عند الطلب

本出版品有其他格式和其他語言備索。

Na życzenie niniejsza publikacja dostępna jest także w innych formatach oraz językach.