

Samuels, Mary-Anne

Child Minding

Glasgow

Type of inspection:
Unannounced

Completed on:
28 November 2025

Service provided by:
Mary-Anne Samuels

Service provider number:
SP2008971775

Service no:
CS2008185722

About the service

Mary-Anne Samuels provides a childminding service from their home in the east end of Glasgow. The childminder is registered to provide a care service to a maximum of 6 children at any one time under the age of 16, of whom a maximum of 6 will be under 12, of whom no more than 3 are not yet attending primary school and of whom no more than 1 is under 12 months. The childminder had a named assistant. Two children were attending the service at the time of this inspection.

Children have access to rooms on the ground floor where there is a range of spaces and play equipment children can choose from. The childminder had an enclosed back garden easily accessible from the home. The childminder makes really good use of local parks and local resources.

About the inspection

This was an unannounced inspection which took place from 27 - 28 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 information, information submitted by the service and intelligence gathered since the last inspection.

In making our evaluations of the service we:

- spoke with children and families
- spoke with the childminder and assistant
- observed practice and daily life
- reviewed documents.

Key messages

- Children enjoy varied, stimulating play indoors and outdoors, promoting creativity, independence and physical wellbeing.
- Strong communication with families through apps, including WhatsApp, and diaries ensures continuity of care and shared learning.
- Personal plans and safe care practices including medication and infection control support children's health and wellbeing.
- Leadership is proactive with clear aims, quality calendars and ongoing training driving continuous improvement.
- Collaboration and forward planning, including networking, strengthen the quality of the service.

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	5 - Very 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 5 - Very Good

Quality indicator: Leadership and management of staff and resources

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.

The childminder demonstrated strong leadership and management skills which contributed to high-quality experiences for children and families. The service aims and objectives were clearly defined and reflected the ethos of the setting. These were reviewed regularly to ensure they remained relevant and aligned with best practice. This commitment to continuous improvement was evident through the use of quality assurance frameworks which supported systematic planning and monitoring.

The childminder actively sought feedback from families through questionnaires and informal discussions. Parents reported positive experiences. Feedback from the parents was particularly complimentary, highlighting the childminder's ability to build trusting relationships and provide responsive care. This approach demonstrated a strong focus on partnership working and inclusion.

Professional development was prioritised for the childminder along with assistants. The childminder accessed training opportunities and allocated time off the floor to complete paperwork, ensuring compliance and reflective practice. This was in line with the Scottish Childminding Association (SCMA) where childminders had planned time to complete training and evaluation. Plans to undertake advanced childcare training, showed ambition to strengthen leadership skills. Networking was another key strength. The childminder maintained strong links with other childminders, sharing ideas and suggesting improvements. This collaborative approach supported sector-wide learning and enhanced the quality of provision.

Digital tools were used effectively to streamline communication and record-keeping. The childminder used the media platform Famly app which enabled parents to stay informed and engaged with their child's experiences, promoting transparency and trust. The childminder also demonstrated forward planning by committing to updating assistant details and maintain a file for a new assistant starting with the service. The childminder had an assistant. They did not play much of a role within the service. However, another identified assistant who lived in the home was a more suitable candidate. This reflected an understanding of safer recruitment and compliance requirements.

Children play and learn 5 - Very Good

Quality indicator: Playing, learning and developing

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.

Children were engaged in a wide range of activities that supported their learning and development. The childminder had created a well-resourced playroom with lots of equipment, offering children choice and variety. This environment encouraged independence and creativity, with good opportunities for imaginative play, construction and problem-solving.

Outdoor play was a strong feature of the service. Children benefited from regular access to the garden and another childminder's garden for group activities. They also accessed the local community spaces, which promoted physical activity and exploration. The childminder made use of community resources and maintained links with other childminders, enabling children to meet peers and experience wider social opportunities.

Children's learning was planned and monitored effectively. The childminder kept individual profiles with targets, reviewed regularly, and linked these to what children were currently interested in. This ensured experiences were meaningful and responsive to children's needs. Profiles were shared with parents who were actively involved in their child's learning journey. The childminder asked parents about home routines and interests, creating strong continuity between home and the setting.

Communication with families was very good. The childminder used WhatsApp and the Famly app to share updates, photos and information about what children were experiencing. Daily diaries provided further detail, and parents responded positively to this approach. Learning was linked to Getting it right for every child (GIRFEC) principles and the Scottish curriculum documents for children under 3 years and over 3 years, ensuring children's wellbeing was central to planning and practice.

Children are supported to achieve 5 - Very Good

Quality indicator: Nurturing care and support

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.

The childminder was caring and loving towards the children and she provided a warm, nurturing environment where children's wellbeing was central to daily practice. Children were safe, secure and thriving in the childminder's care. Personal plans were in place for all children, ensuring their individual needs were understood and met. These plans were regularly reviewed and supported continuity of care between home and the setting. Parents were actively involved in this process, with the childminder using WhatsApp and the Famly app to share updates and gather information about routines and preferences. This strong communication helped build trusting relationships and supported responsive care.

Medication procedures followed best practice guidelines, ensuring children's health needs were managed safely. The childminder had completed child protection training and demonstrated a clear understanding of safeguarding responsibilities and keeping children safe. Infection control measures were robust, contributing to a safe and hygienic environment for children.

Children enjoyed healthy meal times with the childminder. They enjoyed home cooked meals that they helped to prepare. Fruit was on offer throughout the day and the childminder was working with families to promote healthy eating. The childminder spent time chatting with children during meal times and encouraged them to self-serve and develop skills.

Children benefited from regular access to outdoor play which supported physical health and emotional wellbeing. Children were well supported to engage in a wide range of experiences. They had been involved in planting and caring for seeds and flowers. They explored lots of outdoor spaces, engaging in large physical activity. There were good routines in place for children where they could rest and relax. The childminder followed best practice in ensuring safe sleep. All routines were discussed with parents and regularly reviewed, this supported children's development and independence.

Complaints

There have been no complaints upheld since the last inspection. Details of any older upheld complaints are published at www.careinspectorate.com

Detailed evaluations

Leadership	5 - Very Good
Leadership and management of staff and resources	5 - Very 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

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