

# Home Sweet Home Childcare Child Minding

Dundee

**Type of inspection:**  
Unannounced

**Completed on:**  
23 February 2026

**Service provided by:**  
Katrina Webster

**Service provider number:**  
SP2012983935

**Service no:**  
CS2012310920

## About the service

Katrina Webster operating as Home Sweet Home Childcare is registered to provide care to a maximum of 6 children under the age of 16 years, of whom no more than 3 are not yet attending primary school and no more than 1 is less than 12 months. Numbers are inclusive of the children of the childminder's family. Minded children cannot be cared for by persons other than those named on the certificate. Overnight care will not be provided.

The service is provided from the childminder's home in Dundee, close to nurseries, schools, shops, parks and other amenities. Children have access to the playroom, living room, kitchen and bathroom. The garden is currently under development.

## About the inspection

This was an unannounced inspection which took place on Monday 23 February 2026 between 9:40 and 12:40. The inspection was carried out by an 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 evaluations we:

- spent time with one child using the service;
- spoke with the childminder;
- assessed core assurances, including the physical environment;
- observed practice and daily life;
- 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, no improvements were identified relating to core assurances.

During this inspection we gathered specific information to help us understand more about how services support children's safety, wellbeing and engagement in their play and learning.

This included reviewing the following aspects:

- staff deployment;
- safety of the physical environment, indoors and outdoors;
- the quality of personal plans and how children's needs are being met;
- children's engagement with the experiences provided in the setting.

This information will be anonymised and analysed to help inform our future work with services.

## Key messages

- Children experienced nurturing and responsive care in a safe environment.
- The childminder was kind, caring and warm, helping children feel safe, secure and loved.
- Effective communication with families ensured continuity of care and strengthened relationships.
- The childminder demonstrated a very good understanding of their responsibilities, using self-evaluation and training to identify improvements and provide high standards of care and learning.

## 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's caring and calm approach helped children and families feel comfortable in the childminding setting and supported open, honest communication. A parent commented "(The childminder) is easy to communicate with and is interested in understanding and supporting our daughter, and us".

The childminder's aims and objectives included, providing "a safe, child-centred, caring environment that is stimulating and challenging for all children". The aims and objectives of the service were evident in the childminder's nurturing and responsive approach to the minded child during the inspection and the discussions about the individual children and how they and their families were supported by the childminder. The aims and objectives were shared with families when the children were enrolled in the service and explained how the childminder was committed to children's safety, development and effective communication with families. The childminder said they were reviewing the service's vision, values and aims. We suggested involving children and families in this process so that their views were considered and reflected in the developments within the service.

Children and families were regularly consulted and involved in influencing change within the service. The childminder discussed how they valued feedback from the children and families to support the continued development of the provision. Informal chats and formal methods, such as questionnaires and a floorbook enabled children and families to share any ideas and suggestions to support the continued improvement of the service.

The childminder was developing their understanding of the Quality Improvement Framework and using that along with other evaluation tools to identify priorities for improvement and enhance outcomes for children. The childminder also discussed practice, shared ideas and areas for improvement with a local childminder, as they supported each other in evaluating and reflecting on continuous improvement within their services.

The childminder developed their knowledge, practice and skills through regular professional development opportunities online and in person, such as child protection, first aid and loose parts play. This helped them stay up to date with current guidance and ensured they effectively supported children's safety, wellbeing and learning.

## Children play and learn 5 - Very Good

### Quality Indicator: Play 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.

The young child present during the inspection was happy and settled in the childminding environment. They explored a range of toys and materials that promoted choice and independence, whilst leading their own play. These included loose parts and sensory objects, such as spoons and brushes, which encouraged curiosity, investigation and problem-solving. We saw photographs of the older children involved in various

activities and experiences whilst in the care of the childminder, for example, arts and crafts, digging and planting at the allotment and using their imaginations when having fun at the park. Children were engaged, motivated and having fun as they participated in developmentally and age-appropriate activities and experiences. One child shared many examples of what they liked doing when at the childminding service "Playing ice cream shop, making dens, going to the park and making my dinosaur swimming land".

Children experienced a very good balance of planned and spontaneous play. The childminder discussed how they involved children in planning experiences, helping them feel valued and supporting them to take ownership of their learning.

The childminder's interactions were warm and responsive. They knew the minded child well and talked of their interests and how they were supporting and encouraging the child's independence and development. The childminder was responsive to the child's cues and responded appropriately as needed as they both sat on the mat on the floor.

Language, literacy and numeracy were encouraged through play and daily tasks. The childminder chatted to the young child throughout the inspection using simple words and repetition so that they would become familiar with words and sounds. There were opportunities for stories before the child settled for a sleep, and singing whilst the child had their nappy changed. The children enjoyed trips to the library for bookbug sessions and visits to the park where they acted out the Gruffalo story. Numeracy was naturally woven into the childminding environment, for example, the childminder counted the number of scoops into the child's bottle while she made it up, as the child watched and listened. The childminder talked of how they supported children with mark making and writing words. These opportunities also encouraged confidence and self-esteem.

The childminder recorded children's learning through photographs, the floorbook and daily summaries shared with families through an online app. The childminder also carried out observations of children's play which were shared with parents and next steps identified to support further development and progression. These approaches ensured children received support that helped them progress and achieve their identified next steps.

Regular opportunities to access fresh air and explore the local and wider communities supported children's health, wellbeing, social skills and understanding of nature. They had trips to parks, the library and helped dig and plant at the allotment once a week.

## 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.

Children benefited from the childminder's warm, kind and caring approach. They received comfort, reassurance and support when needed. They were encouraged and praised. As a result, children formed trusting attachments with the childminder in an environment where they felt safe and secure.

The childminder knew children well. Families shared information with the childminder through daily chats and messages. Personal plans were in place for the children and contained information to help the childminder meet the individual needs and interests of the children. Plans were reviewed every six months

or sooner with parents and updated where necessary to ensure key information was known by the childminder to support and meet the children's needs whilst they attended the service.

Children received high quality, consistent care that followed home routines, including sleep arrangements. The childminder was fully aware of safe sleep guidance and ensured children's safety and comfort were supported as they slept on small mattresses under the close supervision of the childminder. As they woke, the childminder offered reassurance and cuddles until the child was fully awake. This helped children develop a sense of security and familiarity in their daily experiences.

Snack and mealtimes were relaxed and unhurried. Children sat at a small table in the kitchen, with younger children in a highchair which could be moved up or down to include them around the table. The childminder told us they sat with the children as they ate to provide support when needed and to ensure the children's safety. Children were offered healthy food choices following current nutrition guidance, this included fruit and vegetables, such as carrots and berries, grown by the children at the allotment.

Effective communication between the childminder and families supported positive engagement. The childminder shared information with parents verbally and through an online app to ensure they were included and involved in their child's life whilst at the service. A parent shared "My Childminder shares any potential concern with us; she always has time to have a conversation about our child. She is very professional and prepared. She really seems to love having children around and help them develop. She is very approachable, friendly, and helpful". Another parent commented "(The childminder) gives very full information on every pick up - what's happened in the day, praise where appropriate for our daughter's actions, updates on food/toilet update (if unusual). We talk about activities going on which may be followed up with discussion at home e.g. caterpillar to butterfly, new observations made".

## 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	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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