

# Tina's Tots Childminding Child Minding

Glasgow

**Type of inspection:**  
Unannounced

**Completed on:**  
6 June 2025

**Service provided by:**  
Catriona Mackellar

**Service provider number:**  
SP2023000172

**Service no:**  
CS2023000274

## About the service

Tina's Tots provides a service from the childminder's home, in a residential area on the north west of Glasgow. They are registered to provide a care service to a maximum of 6 children at any one time up to 16 years of age, of whom no more than 6 are under 12 years; of whom no more than 3 are not yet attending primary school and of whom no more than 1 is under 12 months. Numbers include the children of the childminder's family/household.

Children were cared for in spacious living areas, with access to an outdoor garden and toilet facilities. The service is close to local parks, recreation facilities, and a library. Public transport links are nearby.

At the time of our inspection, there was one child using the service.

## About the inspection

This was an unannounced inspection which took place on Tuesday 3 June 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 using the service
- spoke with the childminder
- observed practice and daily life
- reviewed documents
- received feedback from parents/carers

## Key messages

- Children were happy, confident and settled in the service.
- The setting was comfortable, spacious and stimulating for children.
- Children benefitted from access to play opportunities outdoors.
- The childminder had positive relationships with children and families.
- Children benefitted from access to their local area which supported their social skills.
- The childminder was friendly and approachable, which strengthened relationships with 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

How good is our care, play and learning?	5 - Very Good
How good is our setting?	5 - Very Good
How good is our leadership?	5 - Very Good
How good is our staff team?	5 - Very Good

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

## How good is our care, play and learning?

5 - Very Good

We found significant strengths in aspects of the care provided and how these supported outcomes for children, therefore we evaluated this key question as very good.

### Quality indicator 1.1: Nurturing care and support

On the day of inspection, one child was in attendance. The childminder was warm, caring, nurturing, and professional in their approach with the child. The childminder knew the children in their care well and had positive relationships with them and their parents.

The childminder was attentive to children's needs. Children were affectionate with the childminder and were clearly comfortable and happy in their care. One parent commented, 'Tina is very nurturing and caring towards our daughter, and looks after her as if she is her own. We never need to worry about our daughter when she is in Tina's care as she provides such a happy, safe and stimulating environment for her.'

Personal plans were in place for all children. The plans contained relevant information which supported the childminder to meet children's individual needs. Children's individual needs were planned for in relation to Safe, Healthy, Achieving, Nurtured, Active, Respected, Responsible, and Involved (SHANARRI) indicators. Plans were created in partnership with parents and reviewed and updated in line with national guidance. This meant the childminder could respond sensitively to changes in children's lives.

The childminder was aware of children's dietary needs and preferences. Parental wishes were also supported by the childminder. For example, one child was being encouraged to try fruit each day and a 'fruit chart' was used to support this. Families provided meals for the children and the childminder sat with children supporting them and engaging them in conversation.

We reviewed the policies and procedures for supporting children's health, safety and wellbeing. While there were no children who required medication, the childminder had appropriate record keeping procedures in place.

### Quality indicator 1.3: Play and learning

The child at the session was having fun and was engaged in play. Children had the opportunity to lead their own play through accessing resources such as puzzles and games. On the day of inspection for example the child was playing a colour matching game linked to the 'Colour Monster' book.

We saw evidence of a variety of experiences the childminder offered children which supported their literacy and numeracy skills. This included colour matching, reading stories and singing songs. The childminder had a good understanding of child development. This meant that children's learning was planned to meet their needs and stages of development. The childminder told us there had been a focus on children's wellbeing using stories and experiences to develop children's understanding of emotions, wellbeing and consent. This supported children's emotional wellbeing and development.

The childminder planned play experiences based on children's needs and interests. One child told us, 'She

reads me books and she takes me to the park.' One parent commented, 'Our daughter is always well looked after. She ensures that our child has the opportunity to mix with other children and attends a different class each day, helping her to learn, whilst having fun.'

Planning was linked to national curriculums and experiences were evaluated and next steps for learning were planned for. The childminder used daily observations to support planning for next steps for development. Observations of experiences were shared with parents through phot messaging. This supported parents to feel involved in their child's care.

## How good is our setting?

**5 - Very Good**

We found significant strengths in aspects of the care provided and how these supported outcomes for children, therefore we evaluated this key question as very good.

### Quality indicator 2.2: Children experience high quality facilities

The setting was comfortable and homely for children who attended and there was plenty of natural light and ventilation. Resources were easily accessible for children and a wider selection was available for them to choose from. For example, they had access to a toy kitchen, small world toys and soft toys.

The home environment was safe and secure for children. The childminder had added locks on all doors and a stair gate, which further supported children's safety indoors. The environment was clean and infection control procedures were in place with handwashing taking place before eating food. Resources and play equipment were well maintained. This helped to support children's health and safety.

Children benefitted from access to an outdoor garden. The outdoor area was safe and secure with ample space for children's play needs. Children could participate in a variety of experiences outdoors including physical play on bikes and planting. Access to regular outdoor play supported children's health and wellbeing.

The childminder had a good knowledge of the local area and used this to support children's play experiences. Children attended playgroups, intergeneration groups and visited the local library regularly. This supported them to develop social skills and form relationships with other children. One parent told us, 'She takes our child to various classes including boogie babies , playgroups and book bug and will also do activities at home , including making cakes, drawing, painting, finding things in the garden, learning shapes etc.' When visiting the local area the childminder was aware of road safety with the children and of the safety of the environments they attended.

## How good is our leadership?

**5 - Very Good**

We found significant strengths in aspects of the care provided and how these supported outcomes for children, therefore we evaluated this key question as very good.

## Quality indicator 3.1: Quality assurance and improvement are well led

The childminder was welcoming, friendly and engaged well with the inspection process. Families told us they found the childminder to be welcoming and supportive to them.

Families told us they felt involved in the care of their children and in the development of the service. One parent commented, 'Any suggestions or feedback were always welcomed and taken on board.' The childminder used regular reviews of personal plans to ask parents their opinions of the service and any improvements they would suggest.

A service handbook was given to all parents which explained what they could expect from the service. This included the standards and policies of the service which the childminder aligned with SHANARRI indicators and Health and Social Care Standards (HSCS). These set out what people should expect when using health, social care or social work services in Scotland. This supported families to understand the expectations of the service.

The service aims and values were shared with parents via the handbook and were linked to the core values for HSCS. They also highlighted a promotion of children's rights in line with the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC). The UNCRC sets out the specific rights that all children have to help fulfil their potential.

Quality assurance procedures were in place with the childminder using a planner to ensure aspects of the service were monitored. This included first aid boxes, garden safety and fire drills.

The childminder had carried out an initial self evaluation of the service. This identified what the service was doing well and noted what developments would happen and how. Going forward the childminder agreed that there would be a focus on more specific areas and work with children and families to develop these. This has the potential to support families to feel more included in the service development.

## How good is our staff team?

**5 - Very Good**

We found significant strengths in aspects of the care provided and how these supported outcomes for children, therefore we evaluated this key question as very good.

## Quality Indicator 4.3: Staff deployment

Children attending the service were cared for by a skilled and experienced childminder. The childminder's experience supported them to offer quality care to the families and children. One parent commented, 'Finding Tina's Tots has been such a great thing for our daughter and has allowed me to return to work knowing our daughter is in safe hands and being well looked after. Tina provides an excellent childminding service, and is very passionate about her job.'

The childminder kept up to date with developments in the sector through membership of a National Childminding Association. The childminder had attended a variety of training including first aid, child protection and trauma informed practice. They used a learning log to evaluate learning and how it supported their practice. The childminder informed us that they had close links with other childminders, which supported their learning and knowledge of up to date best practice.

The childminder had a very good understanding of child protection procedures. The childminder was aware of the processes to follow and who to contact should a concern arise. This meant that the childminder was well placed to address any concerns, which helped keep children safe.

The childminder had positive relationships with families, working with them to support children's wellbeing and learning. One parent commented, 'Tina has reviews in place regularly and always asks for our permission if doing anything outwith the usual.'

The childminder employed an assistant for the service. Families were made aware of and introduced to the assistant when they started. The assistant was not present on the day of inspection and the childminder noted that, as numbers were low, they had not required the assistant to be involved regularly. Safe recruitment checks had been carried out, supporting children to be cared for safely.

## 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

How good is our care, play and learning?	5 - Very Good
1.1 Nurturing care and support	5 - Very Good
1.3 Play and learning	5 - Very Good
How good is our setting?	5 - Very Good
2.2 Children experience high quality facilities	5 - Very Good
How good is our leadership?	5 - Very Good
3.1 Quality assurance and improvement are led well	5 - Very Good
How good is our staff team?	5 - Very Good
4.3 Staff deployment	5 - Very Good



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