

Childminding Week 2024

Your Toolkit



11-17 May 2024

#CheerforChildminding



scma[®]

Scottish
Childminding
Association

committed to quality childcare

Get ready to #CheerforChildminding ...and be part of something BIG!



What?	It's Childminding Week 2024
Where?	Social media
When?	11-17 May 2024
Why?	To celebrate and boost awareness and recognition of childminding in Scotland.
How?	By empowering YOU to come together, celebrate and reflect on the true value of childminding, how you make a difference, and #CheerforChildminding.

Get Together, Cheer Together

Childminding Week is all about YOU taking centre stage to celebrate how you are making a difference to children and families and ultimately helping to raise the profile and appreciation of professional childminding in Scotland.

Through social media, we want to empower all childminders across Scotland to come together, celebrate and reflect on how you make a difference every day by supporting the learning and wellbeing of children, families, and communities.

Coming together, as one childminding workforce – to share lots of inspirational stories and photos throughout Childminding Week will showcase the breadth and depth of childminding, and how valuable childminding is to so many children, families, and communities.

Our Key Messages for Childminding Week 2024

- 1** Childminders provide high-quality childcare in a nurturing home-from-home environment, that is tailored to each child's individual needs, and small groups of children can thrive together – offering flexibility for parents that is difficult to find in other forms of childcare.
- 2** Childminding is consistently one of the highest rated forms of childcare in Scotland, with 92% of childminders achieving 'good' or above across all quality ratings at inspection – and when it comes to childcare, quality is the measure that matters.
- 3** Childminders are making a difference to children and families every day – creating inclusive environments that engage, entice, and excite – and encourage children to play, learn and grow.
- 4** Childminders play a unique role as trusted adults throughout children's lives (aged 0-12 years), inspiring them to be the best they can be, and are integral in their learning, development, confidence, and wellbeing.
- 5** Childminders provide strong continuity of care, and they often remain a constant figure in a child's life; helping to enhance learning, confidence, and wellbeing at every milestone – enabling them to grow, develop and thrive in line with GIRFEC outcomes and achievements.

We will be posting our key messages on social media throughout Childminding Week, and we would encourage everyone – including all childminders, stakeholders, parents, and supporters – to help us share them far and wide and help us #CheerforChildminding.

Childminding Week will kick off with the [SCMA Conference](#) on Saturday 11 May, and you can keep the celebrations going throughout the week by sharing your photos, videos, stories, and messages on social media and including the hashtag [#CheerforChildminding](#).

Each day of Childminding Week 2024 (11-17 May) has an inspirational theme or topic, designed to help you plan and guide activities with your minded children. We've also linked each of the themes to relevant webpages and resources that you may find useful when planning your activities.

Saturday 11 May:	SCMA Conference 2024: Shaping Futures Embracing Change
Monday 13 May:	Think STEM
Tuesday 14 May:	Spark Your Imagination
Wednesday 15 May:	Get Together, Cheer Together ...with the BIG Teddy Bears Picnic!
Thursday 16 May:	Express Yourself
Friday 17 May:	Embrace Adventures

You can also [#CheerforChildminding](#) by engaging with us and sharing our posts and key messages on social media. The more engagement we have, the more awareness we will generate – helping to showcase the true value and how vitally important childminding is to many children, families, and communities across Scotland.

During Childminding Week last year...

we reached
54,806 people
across social media

we saw a
35% increase
in traffic to our website



Follow us on



How can I get involved?

Help us #CheerforChildminding!

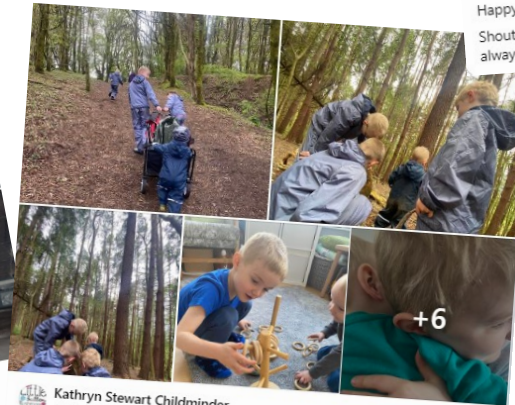
- ✓ Follow us on social media
- ✓ Like and share our key messages, posts and stories
- ✓ Plan activities in your setting linked to our daily themes
- ✓ Share photos and stories using #CheerforChildminding



Julia Hope
10 May 2023 · 🌐
Happy Childminding Week! 🎉
Shout out to Childminders across Scotland, who do an amazing job! It's not always easy, but helping children grow, learn... See more



Nona Days Childminding
12 May 2023 · 🌐
Sharing some pictures for childminding week with the childminder in, out of thousands we have of the kids!
The person behind the camera capturing the speci... See more



Kathryn Stewart Childminder
11 May 2023 · 🌐
One of the benefits of childminding is the ability to provide the opportunity for children from different age groups to socialise together and learn from each other... See more



Diane's Childminding Service is 🥰 feeling proud.
11 May 2023 · 🌐
This photo (including the ones not in this photo 🥰) represents everything I love about childminding 🥰 I 100% adore all these children and they make my heart beam... See more

....plus, take part in our BIG Teddy Bears Picnic?

This year we're inviting all childminders in Scotland to take part in The BIG Teddy Bears Picnic to mark Childminding Week 2024 and – regardless of where you live in Scotland – come together, in spirit, as one workforce to #CheerforChildminding. You can be part of something bigger!

Get together with your colleagues, friends or even on your own, to host a Teddy Bears Picnic with your minded children on **Wednesday 15 May at 10.30am** and be part of The BIG Teddy Bears Picnic. Whether it's in your back garden, down at the beach, in the local woodland, or at the town park – all childminders can get involved and join in with the biggest Teddy Bears Picnic that Scotland has ever seen!



Tell us about your Teddy Bears Picnic

We'd love to know about the Teddy Bears Picnic you're planning – whether it be big or small – and whereabouts it's being held.

If you're planning to organise and host a special Teddy Bears Picnic for Childminding Week on Wednesday 15 May – we would ask the one main contact of your picnic to tell us all about it, and complete this quick form [HERE](#).

Plus, if you tell us about your event before 5pm on Friday 26 April 2024 you'll automatically be entered into a prize draw* to win a fantastic picnic hamper prize. You can then use the prize at your Teddy Bears Picnic and any future activities with your minded children. Good Luck!

*Only one main contact for each Teddy Bears Picnic event is eligible for the prize draw. Any duplicative entries for the same event will be disregarded, to ensure the prize draw is fair and equitable. The prize draw will close at 5pm Friday 26 April 2024 and the winner will be selected at random from collected responses. The prize will be dispatched to the winner on Monday 29 April 2024 to ensure it is received in advance of Childminding Week 2024. To be eligible for the prize draw, participants must fully complete form, and confirm consent to be included in the prize draw.

Your BIG Teddy Bears Picnic

Planning for your BIG Teddy Bears Picnic, all you need to do is decide on a location, who will be joining you on the day, and what you want to eat! Then, dig out a blanket, grab your favourite teddy, and prepare your packed lunch - and enjoy your day!

Activities | Tips and Ideas...

You can incorporate more fun and activities into your BIG Teddy Bears Picnic, and throughout Childminding Week too. So, why not...

- Go on a Scavenger Hunt
- Make your own hats, bunting or decorations
- Get creative with Charlie the Childminding Bear (see below)



Don't forget!

Share your photos and stories from your BIG Teddy Bears Picnic on social media. Post your photos on your profile, and use the hashtag #CheerforChildminding!

Using the #CheerforChildminding hashtag is so important. It means you'll be part of something big, join the conversation, and we'll be able to share it far and wide.

Recipe | No-Bake Healthy Cereal Bars

Want a tasty treat to enjoy at your Teddy Bears Picnic? Why not try making these three-ingredient cereal bars, that are quick, easy and yummy!



You'll need:

- 4 rice cakes
- 200g of sultanas
- 200g of peanut butter



1. Add all the ingredients to a food processor and blitz into a breadcrumb texture.
2. Turn the mixture out into a dish and use a spatula to press it down into all the corners.
3. Pop the dish into the fridge for an hour, after which - turn the block out onto a chopping board and slice into bars. Serve and enjoy!

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What's your favourite sandwich?

Here's something interactive that you can do with your minded children...

We've hidden 10 popular sandwich fillings in this wordsearch - can you find them all?



You may want to print out this page, so your minded children can search, find and mark the fillings.

Why not extend this activity and sit together and chat about food, i.e. their favourite food, combinations, healthy vs. unhealthy, and their ideal sandwich to take on the Teddy Bears Picnic.

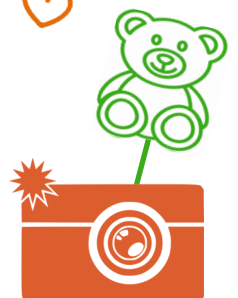


Charlie the Childminding Bear

Get creative and expressive yourself with colour! Here is Charlie the Childminding Bear - our cute Childminding Week mascot for 2024 - which you can print, colour-in, and include in your #CheerforChildminding photos and posts on social media.



1. Print this page, so that each of your minded children have a copy.
2. Get creative and colour-in Charlie - what's your favourite colour?
3. Carefully cut-out Charlie, and stick a straw or stick to his back.
4. Invite Charlie to your Teddy Bears Picnic - take him along with you too.
5. Hold up Charlie in your #CheerforChildminding photos and share on social media.



Remember to have permission!

As always, you **must** ensure you have appropriate permissions in place for your minded children - and this includes holding parental permission for taking a trip for your Teddy Bears Picnic, taking photographs and/or videos of your minded children, and permission to share them publicly on social media.



Your Childminding Week 2024 Checklist...

- Visit childminding.org/childminding-week to get started.
- Follow us on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [Twitter](#).
- Download and read this Toolkit for details, plus tips, ideas and activities.

- Think about how you and your mindees will mark Childminding Week 2024...

- Be part of something BIG and plan to host a Teddy Bears Picnic!
- Tell us about your Teddy Bears Picnic and complete the form [HERE](#).
- Keep your fingers crossed for the prize draw.

- Share our posts, photos and key messages throughout Childminding Week.
- Post your own photos, messages and showcase your love for childminding.
- Join the [#CheerforChildminding](#) conversation!

- Become friends with 'Charlie the Childminding Bear' and get creative!
- Make your packed lunch, grab your blanket, and enjoy your Teddy Bears Picnic.
- Help us [#CheerforChildminding](#) and raise the profile of childminding in Scotland!



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committed to quality childcare

Scottish Childminding Association
Argyll Court, Castle Business Park,
Stirling, FK9 4TY
01786 445377
information@childminding.org

childminding.org
[#CheerforChildminding](#)

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Scottish Government
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