

1272220

Registered provider: Tees-Valley Care Limited

Monitoring visit

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This home is privately operated. It provides care for up to three children who may experience social and emotional difficulties.

The manager registered with Ofsted in August 2022.

There were no children living in the home at the time of the visit.

Inspection date: 4 September 2025

This monitoring visit

At a full inspection in July 2025, the home was judged inadequate. Serious safeguarding shortfalls affecting vulnerable children were identified. All the children were subject to restrictive court orders. Concerns included children being left at risk of harm from ligatures and from ingesting items, and children being able to go missing due to poor levels of supervision by staff. Ofsted issued two compliance notices under regulation 12 (the protection of children standard) and regulation 13 (the leadership and management standard).

A monitoring visit was carried out on 13 August 2025 following whistle-blowing concerns received by the regulator. Further significant shortfalls were identified in relation to the safety of children. An urgent case review was held, and a decision was made to suspend the home's registration. In addition, the compliance notices under regulations 12 and 13 were restated.

This monitoring visit was carried out to monitor the action taken by the provider to meet the steps in the compliance notices. No children were living at the home at the time of the visit. The provider has therefore complied with the suspension notice.

The provider has not taken sufficient steps to address the significant shortfalls in safeguarding practice. Leaders and managers have failed to take action to address staff practice and embed learning from the shortfalls. Instead, staff have been sent to work in other settings operated by the provider. The lack of response to address the raft of shortfalls does not assure the regulator that safe care can be provided to children in this home.

Weaknesses remain in the leadership and management of the home. Actions identified in the provider's response to the inadequate judgement in July 2025 have not been completed. Leaders and managers have failed to review and evaluate the skills and knowledge of staff. Therefore, suitable development opportunities to upskill staff have been ignored.

Leaders and managers accept the need for improvement. They have identified areas for development in the staff team, and in the oversight of the home, such as all staff completing a refresher of the induction programme. However, details of learning and specific areas of development are poor.

None of the steps in the compliance notices under regulations 12 and 13 have been met. Other requirements from the full inspection were not reviewed during this visit and are therefore restated.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
23/07/2025	Full	Inadequate
03/09/2024	Full	Requires improvement to be good
13/04/2023	Full	Good
25/07/2022	Full	Good

What does the children's home need to do to improve?

Statutory requirements

This section sets out the actions that the registered person must take to meet the Care Standards Act 2000, The Children's Homes (England) Regulations 2015 and the 'Guide to The Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards'. The registered person must comply within the given timescales.

Requirement	Due date
The protection of children standard is that children are protected from harm and enabled to keep themselves safe. In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to ensure— that staff— have the skills to identify and act upon signs that a child is at risk of harm; take effective action whenever there is a serious concern about a child's welfare; and are familiar with, and act in accordance with, the home's child protection policies; that the home's day-to-day care is arranged and delivered so as to keep each child safe and to protect each child effectively from harm; that the premises used for the purposes of the home are designed, furnished and maintained so as to protect each child from avoidable hazards to the child's health. (Regulation 12 (1) (2)(a)(iii)(vi)(vii)(b)(d))	31 January 2026
The leadership and management standard is that the registered person enables, inspires and leads a culture in relation to the children's home that— helps children aspire to fulfil their potential; and promotes their welfare. In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to—	31 January 2026

ensure that staff have the experience, qualifications and skills to meet the needs of each child; ensure that the home has sufficient staff to provide care for each child; ensure that the home's workforce provides continuity of care to each child; understand the impact that the quality of care provided in the home is having on the progress and experiences of each child and use this understanding to inform the development of the quality of care provided in the home; demonstrate that practice in the home is informed and improved by taking into account and acting on— feedback on the experiences of children, including complaints received. (Regulation 13 (1)(a)(b) (2)(c)(d)(f)(g)(ii))	
The care planning standard is that children— receive effectively planned care in or through the children's home; and have a positive experience of arriving at or moving on from the home. In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to ensure— that children are admitted to the home only if their needs are within the range of needs of children for whom it is intended that the home is to provide care and accommodation, as set out in the home's statement of purpose. that arrangements are in place to— ensure the effective induction of each child into the home. (Regulation 14 (1)(a)(b) (2)(a)(b)(i)) In particular, the registered person must ensure that the needs of each child are met effectively with sufficient staffing in place.	31 January 2026

The registered person must ensure that— within 48 hours of the use of the measure, the registered person, or a person who is authorised by the registered person to do so (“the authorised person”)— has spoken to the user about the measure; and within 5 days of the use of the measure, the registered person or the authorised person adds to the record confirmation that they have spoken to the child about the measure. (Regulation 35 (3)(b)(i)(c))	31 January 2026
The registered person must notify HMCI and each other relevant person without delay if— there is an allegation of abuse against the home or a person working there; and there is any other incident relating to a child which the registered person considers to be serious. (Regulation 40 (4)(c)(e))	31 January 2026

Recommendations

- The registered person should ensure that the children’s home is a nurturing and supportive environment that meets the needs of their children and is a homely, domestic environment. In particular, maintenance of the home should be addressed in a timely manner. (‘Guide to the Children’s Homes Regulations, including the quality standards’, page 15, paragraph 3.9)
- The registered person should maintain good employment practice. They must ensure that recruitment of staff safeguards children and minimises potential risks to them. (‘Guide to the Children’s Homes Regulations, including the quality standards’, page 61, paragraph 13.1)

Information about this inspection

The purpose of this visit was to monitor the action taken and the progress made by the children’s home since its last Ofsted inspection.

This inspection was carried out under the Care Standards Act 2000.

Children's home details

Unique reference number: 1272220

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Tees-Valley Care Limited

Registered provider address: Tees-Valley Care, PO Box 547, Middlesbrough TS1 9HG

Responsible individual:

Registered manager: Helen Prescott

Inspectors

Natalie Clark, Social Care Inspector (lead)

Dawn McCluskey, Social Care Inspector

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