

1272220

Registered provider: Tees-Valley Care Limited

Monitoring visit

Inspected under the social care common assessment 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: 24 October 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.

A monitoring visit was carried out on 4 September 2025 to review the suspension notice and compliance notices under regulations 12 and 13. The inspection identified that the provider had complied with the suspension notice. However, none of the steps in the compliance notices under regulations 12 and 13 were met.

This monitoring visit was carried out to review the suspension notice and progress made to meet the steps in the compliance notices.

The provider has complied with the suspension notice and no children have lived at the home since this was issued.

Leaders and the manager have implemented training for staff to address the shortfalls in practice. Since the last inspection, staff have returned to work in the home. Staff have attended workshops which have included learning from previous incidents and shortfalls in practice, through role play, scenarios and training from outside agencies. This has helped staff to reflect on their practice and develop their skills in how to respond to children.

The provider has implemented new systems to review the effectiveness of staff training. Leaders have improved oversight and observation of staff training. For example, staff have completed an assessment of their skills, leaders reviewed this through observations of staff practice in training scenarios. Areas for development have been fed-back to staff and further training implemented to address issues in practice. The manager has identified that this system will remain in place to continue to review and improve staff learning and development.

The members of the leadership team have completed additional training to increase their knowledge and skills. This includes training around safeguarding and allegation management. A new responsible individual has recently commenced in post and has supported the manager to reflect on the shortfalls and identify how practice will change in the home.

The home is not adequately staffed to meet the needs of three children. There is currently a core staff team in place to care for two children. Leaders recognise that they do not have adequate staff to offer care for three children and have identified that they would recruit more staff prior to a third child moving into the home.

The home was not ready for children to move into at the time of the visit. The property has been refurbished, which includes changes to the layout of the home. The fire risk assessment does not reflect these changes, and repairs are needed to doors and windows to make these safe for children.

The provider has made progress to meet steps against requirements under regulation 12 and 13. The steps that have been met have been removed.

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 with 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— take effective action whenever there is a serious concern about a child's welfare; and 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)(iii)(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— 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;	31 January 2026

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)(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	31 January 2026

confirmation that they have spoken to the child about the measure. (Regulation 35 (3)(b)(i)(c))	
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 to the home must be actioned 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 staff recruitment 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
Cat Makel, Social Care Inspector

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