

SC034012

Registered provider: Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council

Full inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This home is owned and operated by a local authority and can provide care for one child who may experience social and emotional difficulties.

At the time of this inspection, no child was living at the home. The child who has recently moved on from the home spoke to the inspector over the telephone about their experiences of living there.

The registered manager is on extended leave from the home. An interim manager has been managing the home. She has applied to register with Ofsted.

Inspection dates: 16 and 17 September 2025

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people, taking into account	good
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How well children and young people are helped and protected	good
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The effectiveness of leaders and managers	good
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The children's home provides effective services that meet the requirements for good.

Date of last inspection: 7 October 2024

Overall judgement at last inspection: requires improvement to be good

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
07/10/2024	Full	Requires improvement to be good
26/06/2024	Full	Inadequate
30/08/2023	Full	Requires improvement to be good
17/05/2023	Full	Inadequate

Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: good

The child who has recently moved on from the home said they felt happy during their time there. Staff spoke with genuine warmth and pride about the child, and records consistently indicate that the child felt that this was their home. This nurturing approach has contributed to the child's sense of belonging and self-worth.

Staff responded promptly and effectively to the child's health needs. There is clear evidence of appropriate escalation to specialist services, including child and adolescent mental health services, when required. This ensured that the child received timely and targeted support to maintain their emotional and psychological well-being.

The child's enrolment in education is an area where the staff excelled. The child had not been attending school for several years before living at this home. Staff supported engagement with learning and helped them overcome previous barriers. This reflects the home's commitment to promoting educational progress and aspiration.

Staff demonstrated dedication to the child's health needs. During a hospital admission, staff remained with the child throughout, offering care and continuity. Staff's actions mirrored the care and concern of a parent, highlighting their commitment.

The child successfully enrolled in and completed a cadet programme with St John Ambulance. This accomplishment reflects their growing confidence and the support they received to pursue meaningful opportunities linked to their future aspirations to be a paramedic.

Key conversations with the child are well documented and demonstrate clear progress over time. These sessions have supported the child's emotional and personal development and helped them to reflect on their experiences. The staff are working to ensure that the child receives these memories after their recent move.

The child's memories have been thoughtfully collected and presented. This includes photos, keepsakes and written reflections that celebrate achievements and daily life inside and outside the home. These contribute meaningfully to the child's life story and reinforce their identity.

How well children and young people are helped and protected: good

The child reported feeling safe during their time at the home. This reflects the secure and consistent care provided by staff. Risk plans were regularly reviewed and updated to reflect emerging concerns. This ensured that staff remained alert and responsive to the child's changing needs.

Staff understand their roles relating to safeguarding children, and this was highlighted because they were vigilant in recognising the online risks posed to the child, which resulted in the child meeting an adult outside the home. Their persistence and coordinated action led to a child abduction warning being issued against this individual, which safeguarded the child effectively.

Staff members have a thorough understanding of the protocols for managing missing-from-home incidents. Documentation is clear and thorough, demonstrating proactive responses and effective communication with relevant agencies.

Room searches are carried out appropriately and recorded in line with expectations. Logs indicate that searches take place regularly when required. This helped to maintain a safe and secure environment for the child.

There have been no incidents requiring physical intervention, whereas this was a concern for the child before they moved into this home. This is a positive indicator of the strength of relationships between staff and the child and reflects the staff's success in promoting de-escalation and emotional regulation.

The effectiveness of leaders and managers: good

A skilled and dedicated interim manager is managing the home. She leads by example and sets high standards for the team. Her visible presence and hands-on approach have helped staff understand their roles further. Despite managing the home for several months, there were delays in her submitting a full application to register with Ofsted; this has now been submitted.

The interim manager has good oversight of all areas of practice in the home. Records are child centred and demonstrate clear progress, particularly in relation to the child's journey. Files are well maintained and reflect the quality of care provided.

Staff receive regular supervision, which is timely and purposeful. Supervision records are clear and target-based and allow for effective monitoring of staff development and performance. This contributes to a reflective and motivated workforce.

Team meetings are held regularly and are well structured. They provide a valuable forum for staff to share updates, reflect on practice and contribute to the development of the home. This supports consistency and cohesion across the team.

Training is well managed. Staff have access to a range of learning opportunities that are relevant to their roles. There is emerging evidence of research-informed practice beginning to shape the care provided. However, further work is needed to demonstrate how this is being embedded and making a measurable difference.

The home's statement of purpose has not been updated or submitted to Ofsted as required by regulation. In addition, the recruitment processes managed by the centralised service are not sufficiently robust. Application forms given to the recruiting

manager are not consistently checked for the candidates' full employment histories, potentially compromising safer recruitment standards.

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

Statutory requirements

This section sets out the actions that the registered person(s) 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(s) must comply within the given timescales.

Requirement	Due date
The registered person must recruit staff using recruitment procedures that are designed to ensure children's safety. The registered person may only— employ an individual to work at the children's home; or if an individual is employed by a person other than the registered person to work at the home in a position in which the individual may have regular contact with children, allow that individual to work at the home, if the individual satisfies the requirements in paragraph (3). The requirements are that— the individual is of integrity and good character; the individual has the appropriate experience, qualification and skills for the work that the individual is to perform; the individual is mentally and physically fit for the purposes of the work that the individual is to perform; and full and satisfactory information is available in relation to the individual in respect of each of the matters in Schedule 2. (Regulation 32 (1) (2)(a)(b) (3)(a)(b)(c)(d)) In particular, the registered person must ensure that the full employment histories of candidates invited for interviews are known. This specifically relates to ensuring that the manager receives all necessary information from the recruitment team in the local authority.	10 December 2025
The registered person must—	10 December 2025

keep the statement of purpose under review and, where appropriate, revise it; and

notify HMCI of any revisions and send HMCI a copy of the revised statement within 28 days of the revision.

(Regulation 16 (3)(a)(b))

In particular, the registered person must ensure that the statement of purpose is updated and sent to the regulator in a timely manner.

Information about this inspection

Inspectors have looked closely at the experiences and progress of children and young people, using the social care common inspection framework. This inspection was carried out under the Care Standards Act 2000 to assess the effectiveness of the service, how it meets the core functions of the service as set out in legislation, and to consider how well it complies with The Children's Homes (England) Regulations 2015 and the 'Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards'.

Children's home details

Unique reference number: SC034012

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council

Registered provider address: Tameside One, Market Place, Ashton-under-Lyne OL6 6BH

Responsible individual:

Registered manager: Kayleigh-Marie Taylor

Inspector

Colin Jones, Social Care Inspector

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