

March 2026 Newsletter



This month, National Child Exploitation Awareness Day (18 March) coincides with both Social Work Week and Neurodiversity Awareness Week. This creates an important opportunity for us, as a partnership, to reflect on our collective role in safeguarding children and young people. The national theme for 2026 focuses on preventing abuse through exploitation by working in partnership. It reinforces a core principle of safeguarding:

Protecting children is a shared responsibility — across agencies, services, communities, and the wider public.

This newsletter highlights ways we can work together to recognise the complexities surrounding Child Exploitation, strengthen our collective response, and improve outcomes for children and families.



Safer Sleep Week 2026: Baby Necessities 9–15 March 2026

Safer Sleep Week is a national awareness campaign led by The Lullaby Trust, aimed at anyone who cares for a young baby. Throughout the week, they will share key information about safer sleep and raise awareness of sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS).

This year's theme, "Baby Necessities", focuses on helping parents and carers understand what they *really* need to help keep their baby safe during sleep. With so many baby products on the market and lots of conflicting advice, getting ready for a new arrival can feel overwhelming. The campaign highlights the simple, evidence-based essentials that reduce risk and promote safer sleep.

Key Messages for Practitioners Working With Families

- Keep it simple to keep it safe. Parents don't need expensive gadgets or multiple sleep products.
- Focus on the basics that matter, including a clear sleep space, a firm flat mattress, and placing baby on their back for every sleep.
- Support families to choose products that meet safer sleep standards, avoiding items that increase risk such as soft bedding or inclined sleepers.
- Encourage conversations early, especially during pregnancy and the first weeks after birth, when routines are being established.
- Share trusted sources. Many families receive mixed messages from social media or retailers, so evidence-based guidance is vital.

How you can help

Please share Safer Sleep Week messages with any families you work with. Raising awareness is one of the simplest and most effective ways to help reduce the risk of SIDS and ensure babies sleep safely.

For full guidance and resources, [Safer Sleep Week | The Lullaby Trust](#) people.



Tameside Safeguarding Children Partnership



Keep Protected: New Vaccination Campaign Toolkits

NHS Greater Manchester has released two new 'Keep Protected' campaign toolkits to help encourage parents and carers to get their children vaccinated. One toolkit covers ages 0–5, and the other focuses on school-aged children.

Vaccinations protect babies, children and teens from serious infectious illnesses such as measles, meningitis and pneumonia. These diseases can be life-threatening, making timely vaccination essential.

Each toolkit includes newsletter copy, social media graphics and key messages to share with families, partners and local networks.

Download the toolkits here. [Keep Protected - Childhood Vaccinations | Greater Manchester Integrated Care Partnership](#)

[Busting childhood vaccine myths | Greater Manchester Integrated Care Partnership](#)



Have Your Say: Shaping Tameside's Early Years Strategy

Tameside Council and local partners are developing a new Early Years Strategy, which will set out how we support children and families from pregnancy through the first five years of life. The strategy will outline the improvements we want to make and how services will work together to ensure every child in Tameside has the best possible start.

To make sure the strategy reflects the real experiences and priorities of our community, we are gathering insight through two online surveys:

- **Survey for parents and carers:** [Parents and Carers Shaping Tameside's Early Years Strategy Survey](#)
- **Survey for early years professionals:** [Professionals Shaping Tameside's Early Years Strategy Survey](#)

Feedback is vital. It will help us understand what matters most to you and the families you work with and will shape the future of early years support in Tameside.

Please share these surveys with families, colleagues, and relevant groups across the borough. **Both surveys will close on Monday, 30 March 2026.**

If you have any questions, please contact:

- **Emma Lewis**, Service Manager for Early Years and Early Help:
emma.lewis@tameside.gov.uk
- **Charlotte Stenton**, Public Health Programme Manager:
charlotte.stenton@tameside.gov.uk



Critical Incident & Trauma Support for GM Staff

Specialist psychological support is available for Greater Manchester health and care staff affected by critical incidents or traumatic events at work.



Tameside Safeguarding Children Partnership

The service offers:

- Consultation
- One-to-one support
- Group support for individuals, teams and managers

If you or your team needs help, please reach out.

Phone: 03330 095 071

Email: GM.help@nhs.net

Web: penninecare.nhs.uk/gmrh-staff

Or scan the QR code for more information:



CSA Centre Workshops for Local Safeguarding Partners January – July 2026

The CSA Centre is offering six free online workshops between January and July 2026 to help safeguarding partners reflect, plan, and lead on implementing the recommendations from the 2024 [National review into child sexual abuse within the family environment - GOV.UK](#)

These interactive sessions will provide practical guidance and expert insights to strengthen local safeguarding arrangements.

Workshop Schedule:

Thursday 12 March [Workshop three - Enquiries and investigations | CSA Centre](#)

Speakers: Paul Burnside & Nick Connaughton

Thursday 21 May [Workshop four - Assessment of people presenting risk of sexual harm | CSA Centre](#)

Speakers: Anna Glinski, Paul Burnside, TJ Abrahams & Becky Canning

Wednesday 17 June [Workshop five - Talking to children | CSA Centre](#)

Speakers: Lorraine Myles & Dr Natasha Sabin

Monday 13 July [Workshop six - Health | CSA Centre](#)

Speakers: Dr Natasha Sabin & Dr Alison Steele

Other CSA training opportunities are also available:

17 March 12:30-13:30 A free one-hour webinar to give professionals the knowledge and confidence to act, using the CSA Centre's Communicating with children guide [Speaking to children about sexual abuse | CSA Centre](#)

14 April 16:00-17:00 Online sexual offending: supporting families following arrest of a parent.

[Online sexual offending: supporting families following arrest of a parent | CSA Centre](#)

21 April 16:00-17:00 Responding to harmful sexual behaviour in education settings
[Responding to harmful sexual behaviour in education settings | CSA Centre](#)

They also have a range of practical resources, developed to support professionals effectively and confidently respond to concerns of child sexual abuse:

- The [Signs and indicators template](#) is designed to help professionals record and share concerns that a child is being, or has been, sexually abused.
- Our guide to [Managing risk and trauma after online sexual offending](#) helps professionals safeguard the whole family when a parent has accessed child sexual abuse material.
- The CSA Centre film series [Supporting practice in tackling child sexual abuse](#) distils key information from our core resources in 12 short films.

To learn more and sign up to the latest CSA Centre webinars, training and workshops, visit the [CSA Centre website](#).



**Greater Manchester CS Hub – Week of Action 16–20
March 2026**

A full week of learning and practice development sessions is available for all professionals.

Monday 16 March 12:00–14:00 – Trauma-Informed Practice

Understanding developmental trauma, emotional regulation and culturally aware, neuroaffirming responses.

[Microsoft Virtual Events Powered by Teams](#)

Monday 16 March 14:00–15:00 – Safer Spaces in Sport for LGBTQ+ Young People

Exploring lived experiences, inclusion, youth voice and tools to strengthen safeguarding in community sport.

[Microsoft Virtual Events Powered by Teams](#)

Wednesday 18 March 10:00–11:00 – Autism-Informed Puberty & Relationships

Supporting autistic girls with safe relationships, boundaries and accessible puberty education.

[Microsoft Virtual Events Powered by Teams](#)

Thursday 19 March 10:00–11:00 – Introduction to County Lines

Overview of the County Lines model, exploitation risks and emerging trends.

[Microsoft Virtual Events Powered by Teams](#)

Thursday 19 March 12:00–13:00 – Responding to Adult Exploitation

Using the Care Act to support autonomy, recognise coercion and challenge victim-blaming.

[Microsoft Virtual Events Powered by Teams](#)

Friday 20 March 10:00–11:30 – Our Stories Travel

Romani Gypsy and Irish Traveller experiences of safeguarding and the ROMA Model for culturally respectful practice.

[Microsoft Virtual Events Powered by Teams](#)

Friday 20 March 13:00–14:00 – Hydrant Programme: How We Can Help

National insights on CSAE investigations, good practice, and support available to policing teams.

[Microsoft Virtual Events Powered by Teams](#)

More information about each event can be found on the TSCP website: [Training - Tameside Safeguarding Children Partnership](#)

Public Health are offering:

Healthy Start Training and Information Session for all who work with children and families in Tameside

Come along to the Healthy Start Training and Information Session to learn more about the Healthy Start Scheme and how you can support your families to see if they are eligible and help them to access the scheme.

Due to popular demand, there will be four training sessions running throughout January – April. Dates and details of each session can be found below:

Date: Wed 28th Jan 2026
Time: 2-3pm
Location: Microsoft Teams

Date: Tues 24th Feb 2026
Time: 11-12pm
Location: Microsoft Teams

Date: Thurs 19th Mar 2026
Time: 3-4pm
Location: Microsoft Teams

Date: Tues 21st Apr 2026
Time: 10-11am
Location: Microsoft Teams

To book your place, please email: tamesidehealthystart@tameside.gov.uk

Individuals from teams as well as multiple members from the same team, or whole teams/departments are welcome to attend (*you must contact me to book your place and receive the Microsoft Teams invite link*)

If you would like your whole team to attend a Healthy Start Training and Information Session but cannot make any of these sessions, please contact me and we can find alternative dates for you.



13 March 12:30-1:30pm Lunch & Learn: Domestic Abuse Protection Orders (DAPOs)

Sign up for this Lunch & Learn session delivered by Talk Listen Change, offering a clear introduction to Domestic Abuse Protection Orders (DAPOs), what they are, how they work, and how they differ from non-molestation orders.

The session will cover:

- What a DAPO is and how it differs from a non-molestation order.
- How to apply for a DAPO.
- Talk Listen Change's behaviour change programme.
- The Domestic Abuse Support Service available for partners and ex-partners of individuals on the programme.

This session is ideal for practitioners wanting to build confidence and awareness around the new DAPO process.

#LookCloser Programme of Learning Events January – March 2026

The Children's Society is hosting a series of free learning events as part of the #LookCloser campaign.

What is #LookCloser?

A partnership campaign between:

- The Children's Society.
- National County Lines Co-ordination Centre.
- British Transport Police.

The aim is to raise awareness of child exploitation and abuse and encourage the public and businesses to identify and report concerns.

Why attend?

- Learn how to spot signs of exploitation in everyday settings.
- Understand the latest trends in child criminal and sexual exploitation.
- Gain practical advice on safeguarding and reporting concerns.

Book by clicking on the links:

[#LookCloser: Overcoming gender assumptions to tackle child exploitation Tickets, Thu, Mar 5, 2026 at 1:00 PM | Eventbrite](#)



[Free Resources by SaferNow | Enhance Safety Today — Download Resources — SaferNow](#)

Discover practical resources developed by SaferNow to support professionals, young people, and families in addressing extra-familial harm and promoting contextual safeguarding.

The resources are designed to be used in a trauma-focused, child-centred way. They are flexible based on individual needs, so please feel free to adapt them as required.

Virtual College/TSCP Online Training Offer Free Safeguarding Training – Have You Registered Yet?

If you work with children, young people, or families in any capacity, safeguarding is part of your responsibility. To support you, Tameside Safeguarding Children Partnership (TSCP) has partnered with Virtual College, a leading online training provider, to offer **free access to 40 high-quality safeguarding courses**.

So far, **581** safeguarding courses have already been accessed by staff in Tameside—don't miss out!

Registration is free for all staff working to safeguard children in Tameside.

Safeguarding is a broad and complex area, covering:

- Awareness of Forced Marriage
- Child Criminal Exploitation, Gangs and County Lines
- Child Exploitation (was Child Sexual Exploitation)
- Female Genital Mutilation

These courses are designed to support your continuing professional development (CPD) and help organisations across Tameside build a confident, well-informed workforce.

Whether you're a frontline practitioner, manager, or volunteer, these courses will help us all work together to keep children, young people, and families safe.

Accessing the training is simple and completely free. Just follow the link below to register through [Enable](#), our online learning platform.

Graded Care Profile 2 (GCP2) – TSCP Training

Why this matters:

Neglect affects 1 in 10 children in Tameside, making it one of our most pressing safeguarding priorities. The Graded Care Profile 2 (GCP2) tool is central to our commitment to help professionals understand what life is really like for a child and take effective action.



What is GCP2?

GCP2 is a strength-based, evidence-informed assessment tool that measures the quality of care a parent or carer provides in meeting their child's needs. It supports professionals to identify areas of concern and strengths, enabling timely and targeted interventions.

What you'll gain from this training:

- Hands-on experience: Learn how the tool works and complete a full assessment.
- Accreditation: Receive a GCP2 license to use the tool in your practice.
- Resources: Access all training materials for ongoing support.
- Impactful practice: Gain confidence to provide guidance, interventions, or make referrals to the right agencies.

Sessions are a full day and will be delivered at Dukinfield Town Hall you can book by clicking on the links or via the TSCP website: [Training - Tameside Safeguarding Children Partnership](#)

[Graded Care Profile 2 Training Tickets, Fri, Mar 6, 2026 at 9:30 AM | Eventbrite](#)

[Graded Care Profile 2 Training Tickets, Mon, Apr 13, 2026 at 9:30 AM | Eventbrite](#)

[Graded Care Profile 2 Training Tickets, Wed, May 20, 2026 at 9:30 AM | Eventbrite](#)

[Graded Care Profile 2 Training Tickets, Wed, Jun 24, 2026 at 9:30 AM | Eventbrite](#)

[Graded Care Profile 2 Training Tickets, Fri, Jul 10, 2026 at 9:30 AM | Eventbrite](#)

TSCP Missing from Home Training

To book a place, click on the link:

[Missing from Home Tickets, Thu, Apr 9, 2026 at 9:30 AM | Eventbrite](#)

[Missing from Home Tickets, Thu, Jul 2, 2026 at 9:30 AM | Eventbrite](#)

[Missing from Home Tickets, Thu, Oct 8, 2026 at 9:30 AM | Eventbrite](#)

[Missing from Home Tickets, Thu, Jan 14, 2027 at 9:30 AM | Eventbrite](#)

Why this training matters:

The local authority has a statutory duty to offer all children and young people who run away or are reported missing a Return Home Interview. These interviews are vital to understanding why a child went missing and how to reduce future risk.

The risks of going missing:

Children and young people who go missing are at increased risk of:

- Abuse in any form.
- Substance misuse.
- Poor mental health.
- Disrupted education and relationships.
- Reduced life chances.

They are also particularly vulnerable to:

- Trafficking.
- Violent crime.
- Drug use.
- Exploitation, including sexual and criminal exploitation.

Who should attend?

Carers and professionals who want to develop knowledge and understanding of missing episodes and learn how to respond effectively.

TSCP Understanding Exploitation Training

Why this training matters

Safeguarding children from exploitation is everyone's responsibility. This training will help you understand how children and young people are groomed and exploited, including emerging risks such as sextortion, sexual exploitation, criminal exploitation and county lines activity. You will learn how to recognise the signs that a child is at risk, understand the impact exploitation has on them and their families, and know what steps to take if you have concerns.

The risks of exploitation

Children and young people may be at risk of:

- Grooming by individuals or organised groups.
- Sexual exploitation.
- Sextortion.
- Criminal exploitation, including county lines.
- Manipulation, coercion, and threats.
- Harm to mental and emotional wellbeing.
- Increased vulnerability in peer and online environments.

Exploitation can lead to:

- Physical and emotional harm.
- Increased risk of substance misuse.
- Disrupted education and relationships.
- Long-term trauma for children and families.

Who should attend?

Carers and professionals who want to build their knowledge of exploitation, recognise warning signs early and take effective action to safeguard children and young people.

You can book a place by clicking on the links below:

Dukinfield TH [Understanding Exploitation Tickets, Thu, Mar 26, 2026 at 9:30 AM | Eventbrite](#)

On-line [Understanding Exploitation Tickets, Thu, Jun 11, 2026 at 9:30 AM | Eventbrite](#)

Dukinfield TH [Understanding Exploitation Tickets, Thu, Sep 24, 2026 at 9:30 AM | Eventbrite](#)

On-line [Understanding Exploitation Tickets, Thu, Nov 26, 2026 at 9:30 AM | Eventbrite](#)



The **Brook Sexual Behaviours Traffic Light Tool** helps professionals identify, understand and respond to sexual behaviours in children and young people up to 18. While curiosity about bodies and sex is a normal part of development, some behaviours may signal concern or potential harm. The Traffic Light Tool supports practitioners in recognising the difference and responding appropriately.

Originally introduced in Tameside following a Serious Case Review, the training takes around **2 hours** to complete. TSCP still has **multiple licences available** for partners across the workforce.

If you are interested, please contact us at tscp@tameside.gov.uk and we will send you details on how to access the course.

An overview of what is covered in the training can be found via the link [CPD: Brook Sexual Behaviours Traffic Light Tool \(RSE\) Course](#)



Infants and unborn babies

Source: NSPCC Learning

Date published: 19 February 2026

NSPCC Learning has published a CASPAR briefing summarising the Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel's national review into the broader safeguarding issues raised by the death of baby Victoria Marten. The national review sets out learning for safeguarding partners in England. The learning highlights the need for: earlier and stronger pre-birth safeguarding; better trauma-informed practice when working with families; clearer arrangements and multi-agency planning when families move frequently; and better engagement with and support for parents before and after care proceedings.

Read the briefing: [Summary of the Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel's national review into the death of baby Victoria Marten: CASPAR briefing](#)

See also on NSPCC Learning

> [Online safety: expert insight videos](#)

Tameside Safeguarding Children Partnership Training Offer – New dates now available:

Cultural Genograms and Eco Maps: This interactive course supports practitioners to develop confidence in completing cultural genograms and eco maps with families. You will explore how these tools can be used to understand family functioning, cultural identity, and support networks, helping to inform assessment and planning.

By the end of the session, participants will:

- Increase their confidence in using cultural genograms and eco maps in practice.
- Strengthen their understanding of family systems and community connections.
- Enhance their ability to use visual tools to support meaningful conversations with families.

Unconscious Bias: This session helps practitioners understand how unconscious biases shape decision-making, assessments, and interactions with families.

Attendees will explore strategies to recognise, challenge, and reduce bias in everyday practice, supporting more equitable and inclusive work with children and families.

The course will help participants to:

- Increase awareness of personal and organisational bias.
- Develop practical strategies to mitigate bias in professional practice.
- Strengthen fair, consistent, and reflective decision-making.

The Power of Language: This reflective training explores the impact of the language we use, both written and verbal, when working with children, families, and partners.

Participants will reflect on their own communication styles and consider how word choice influences engagement, trust, and outcomes.

The course will support workers to:

- Communicate in a non-judgemental, factual, and supportive way.
- Understand how language can either empower or stigmatise families.
- Promote positive, lasting change through thoughtful and respectful communication.



Tameside Safeguarding Children Partnership

Professional Curiosity: This session focuses on strengthening practitioners' ability to remain curious, questioning, and reflective when working with children and families. Through discussion and practical examples, participants will explore what it means to be professionally curious and how curiosity supports safer, more informed decision-making.

The course will enable attendees to:

- Explore how curious they currently are in their practice.
- Understand why professional curiosity is essential, particularly in safeguarding.
- Identify common barriers to curiosity, including assumptions and over-familiarity.
- Reflect on ways they can actively improve their use of professional curiosity

By the end of the session, participants will feel more confident in embedding professional curiosity within their day-to-day work and across multi-agency practice.

Training can be booked via the TSCP website: <https://tamesidescp.org.uk/training>

TSCP training programme is designed to:

- Reflect the TSCP Learning and Development Framework.
- Align with strategic priorities, national guidance, and emerging local themes.
- Incorporate learning from Rapid Reviews and case learning to address recurring issues.

Our aim is to ensure that future training events respond directly to areas of need, strengthening multi-agency collaboration and improving outcomes for children and families through

Polite Request: Please Cancel If You Can't Attend

TSCP continues to offer training **free of charge**, but non-attendance and last-minute cancellations impact trainers and prevent others from booking on.

To help us manage places effectively:

- Only book a place for yourself – please ask colleagues to register individually.
- If you can no longer attend, cancel your booking as soon as possible so your place can be offered to someone else.

Thank you for your support in making training accessible to everyone.

research in practice

Research in Practice, is a leading resource hub for evidence-informed practice in social care. RiP works with and for professionals in the social care, health, criminal justice, and higher education sectors, offering resources, learning opportunities and specialist expertise with an aim to support their learning to enable people – children, young people, families, adults, carers, and communities – to live good lives.

By registering with RiP, you'll gain access to:

- Expert-led webinars, podcasts, and research briefings.
- Practical tools and resources to support your day-to-day work.
- CPD opportunities to enhance your professional development.

Whether you're looking to develop your knowledge and skills, stay up to date with best practices, or connect with a community of professionals, Research in Practice has something for you.

This resource is free of charge and open to anyone with a Tameside email address can create an account free of charge by following the information [here](#).



If you would like to learn how to get the best out of Research in Practice, why not book onto the next event: [How to use Research in Practice - March 2026 | Research in Practice](#)

Greater Manchester
SAFEGUARDING

TSCP has signed up to the Greater Manchester Safeguarding Partnership, and along with the other Greater Manchester authorities, TSCP has agreed to use a standardised set of procedures and protocols

The [Resource Hub - tri.x \(trixonline.co.uk\)](#) details the latest protocols, policies and procedures in use across Greater Manchester and good practice from across the region.

We hope you find this information useful. If you would like your service or any updates to be included in a future TSCP Newsletter, please e-mail TSCP@tameside.gov.uk

If you wish to unsubscribe from this Newsletter, please email TSCP@tameside.gov.uk