



December 2025 Newsletter



Parenting isn't easy, and families aren't expected to have all the answers.

Whilst many of us will wear our Christmas jumper on 11 December, please remember the message behind the day. **Save the Children** offers practical advice, expert insights, and reassuring guidance for the moments that matter most in a parent's journey, from everyday learning opportunities to navigating tricky conversations.

Please share this resource with the families you support:

[Parenting Advice & Support](#) | [Practical Tips for Parents](#) | [Save the Children UK](#)

Holiday Activity and Food Programme – #TAMESIDEHAF2025

Free Holiday Activities for Children and Young People on Benefit-Related FSM

This winter, Tameside's HAF Programme brings festive fun and nutritious meals to children and young people across the borough. Families can enjoy **free sessions**, including Christmas parties, ice skating, bowling, and non-festive options, plus tailored activities for SEND children. Funded by the Department for Education, HAF supports those on benefit-related free school meals and families in crisis (limited places, professional referral required).

Find out more and book: Visit HAF webpage for further information: [Tameside HAF \(Holiday Activities and Food\) Programme - Tameside MBC](#)

For professional referrals or guidance, email: hafenquiries@tameside.gov.uk

For more information and bookings for these holiday provisions and activities, please see the website: <https://eequ.org/haftameside>





Tameside Safeguarding Children Partnership

Christmas
Events to
share with
Tameside
families

Winter Wreath Workshop



Parents of 0-5 year olds... this one's for you!

Join us for a festive Parent Carer Panel to make your own wreath with real foliage, chat to other parents, and enjoy some festive nibbles too

5th, 17th, 12th, 18th December

Find out more and
book your FREE
place here:



Tameside
**Family
Hub**

familyhubpanels@tameside.gov.uk

FINDING RAINBOWS ANNUAL

Christmas

PARTY

21 DEC, 2025 1pm START

Denton Cricket Club, Egerton St, Denton, Manchester M34 3PB

DJ • MRS CLAUSE • TOMBOLA • RAFFLE • LIGHT BUFFET • ELF
• FATHER CHRISTMAS VISIT

£5 per person, family ticket £20 *x2 adults x3 children
Booking URL: <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/booking/t-ldkdaq>

mencap FAMILY ENGAGEMENT PROJECT
DECEMBER 2025 EVENTS

TUES 25TH NOV	0-6 SEND Stay and Play @ North Family Hub, Ashton, OL7 0LL 10.00-11.30am
WEDS 3RD DEC	SEND Parent/Carer Coffee Morning @ The Together Centre, Dukinfield, 287 Birch Lane, SK16 5AU 10.00- 11.30am
TUES 9TH DEC	0-6 SEND Stay and Play @ North Family Hub, Ashton, OL7 0LL 10.00-11.30am
SAT 13TH DEC	Mencap Christmas Party @ Round the Twist 102 Wharf St, Dukinfield SK16 4RA 10am-12pm Booking essential. Contact for details.
WEDS 17TH DEC	0-6 SEND Splash Class Taster Session @ Aquanurture, Knott Ln, Gee Cross, Hyde SK14 5BS 1.30-2.30pm. Booking essential. Contact for details of upcoming courses dates.
TUES 23RD DEC	0-6 SEND Stay and Play @ North Family Hub, Ashton, OL7 0LL 10.00-11.30am
WEDS 7TH JAN	SEND Parent/Carer Coffee Morning @ The Together Centre, Dukinfield, 287 Birch Lane, SK16 5AU 10.00- 11.30am

The Mencap Family Engagement Project supports families of children 0-6 with Special Educational needs and disabilities or emerging needs living in Tameside. Scan the QR code to register with the project and access our sessions for free. For further information visit our Facebook page or email us at: familyengagementtm@mencap.org.uk

[Sensory Story Time Tickets, Sat, Dec 13, 2025 at 11:00 AM | Eventbrite](#)



**Branching
Out**
Tameside

Ketamine Use – Important Update and Awareness

Ketamine use is on the rise across the UK, with more young people and young adults seeking support than ever before. Alongside this increase, new risks are emerging in drug supply lines.

Drug Alert:

A recent alert issued across Greater Manchester warns of a potentially contaminated local Ketamine supply containing Medetomidine. This combination can cause extreme prolonged sedation and may be fatal.

The aim of this alert is to raise awareness, not cause panic. If you work with individuals who use Ketamine, please make them aware of these risks.

Need Support?

Referrals for advice or help with Ketamine use can be made easily online: [Referrals - Branching Out - Tameside Young Persons Drug and Alcohol Service | Change Grow Live](#)

Learn More:

Join [Lunch and Learn - Ketamine and Young People Tickets, Fri 19 Dec 2025 at 12:00 | Eventbrite](#)

Another useful course offered by Branching Out is a session for professionals in Tameside to increase awareness of THC Cannabis and Vapes. Expert speakers will cover the risks, different consumption methods, impact on young people and the legal landscape.

Whether you're a seasoned professional or just curious, this event is perfect for anyone looking to expand their knowledge. [Lunch and Learn - THC Cannabis and Vapes Tickets, Fri 5 Dec 2025 at 12:00 | Eventbrite](#)

The Children's Society

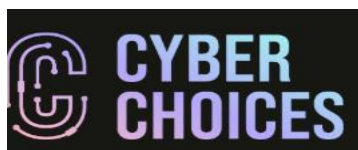
Language Matters in Safeguarding

The words we use when talking about children and exploitation are powerful. Inappropriate or victim-blaming language can reinforce shame, create barriers to disclosure, and even absolve perpetrators of responsibility.

Children can never consent to their own abuse. Language that suggests choice—such as saying a child was “involved in” exploitation—minimises the coercion and control of abusers and risks overlooking harm.

Using accurate, respectful language helps professionals reframe abuse as exploitation and ensures appropriate safeguarding interventions.

For practical examples and guidance, download **The Children's Society Language Guide for Professionals:** [Appropriate Language Guide Final \(English\).pdf](#)



[Cyber Choices - National Crime Agency](#)

Offers guidance for Young People, Parents, Guardians and Carers, Teachers and Safeguarding Staff.



Northwest Safeguarding Partnership have developed a new website that aims to centralise tools, guidance and key updates.

Please sign up to the website: [North West Children's Safeguarding Partnership MoU | NWADCS](#)

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. To book your place on one of the following sessions, contact tamesidehealthystart@tameside.gov.uk

Tuesday 16 December 2025, 10:00-11:00, Microsoft Teams



CSA Free training Webinars

Centre of expertise on child sexual abuse are a multi-disciplinary team, who work closely with key partners from academic institutions, government, local authorities, health, education, police and the voluntary sector. Their focus is on supporting professionals to improve identification and response to [child sexual abuse](#) through evidence-informed resources, training, and guidance.



Tameside Safeguarding Children Partnership

Why not book one of the free sessions today:

9 December 4:00 pm – 5:00pm [Speaking to children about sexual abuse | CSA Centre](#)

7 January 12:30 pm – 1:30 pm [Responding effectively to sibling sexual behaviour | CSA Centre](#)

21 January 12:30 pm – 1:30 pm [Responding effectively to sibling sexual behaviour | CSA Centre](#)



Home-Start HOST – Supporting Parents When They Need It Most

Home-Start HOST is a local charity providing compassionate, confidential, and non-judgemental support for families with young children across Tameside

We know how tough parenting can be—and the difference the right support can make. Our trained volunteers and experienced staff help parents flourish during the crucial early years, so children can have the best start in life.

What Home-Start HOST offers:

- One-to-one support in the home
- Specialist early learning support
- Breastfeeding and perinatal support

Please share this resource with families who may benefit: [Get Support – support in your area finder | Home-Start HOST](#)

#LookCloser: Anti-Racist practice to tackle child exploitation by The Children's Society Thursday 11 December 1:00 pm- 3:00 pm

Racially and ethnically minoritised young people are more likely to face disadvantage because of our assumptions and biases, siloed working, exclusionary practice, and wider social inequalities, which impact our ability to protect them from harm.

This session will explore what it means to take a proactive 'anti-racist' approach to tackling child exploitation and why this is essential to ensuring we can support and safeguard every young victim.

[#LookCloser: Anti-Racist practice to tackle child exploitation Tickets, Thu, Dec 11, 2025 at 1:00 PM | Eventbrite](#)

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:

- Types of abuse and their warning signs
- Online safety
- Neglect
- LGBTQ+ awareness

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 - TSCP Training

Neglect affects 1 in 10 children in Tameside. GCP2 is a strength and evidence-based assessment tool that helps professionals measure the quality of care provided by a parent or carer in meeting their child's needs.

On this 1-day training course, you will explore how the tool works and complete an assessment. Following completion, you will receive a GCP2 license to use the tool, as well as all the training materials needed. You will be able to provide guidance and/or interventions, or signpost/refer to the most appropriate supporting agency. (This tool replaces TNAP)

New dates will be added to the TSCP website soon. Sessions are a full day and will be delivered at Dukinfield Town Hall on:

30 January 2026

23 February 2026

6 March 2026

13 April 2026

20 May 2026

24 June 2026

10 July 2026

[Training - Tameside Safeguarding Children Partnership](#)

TSCP Missing from Home Training

Thursday 15 January 2026, 9:30 – 12:30, – via Microsoft Teams

To book a place, click on the link: [Missing from Home Tickets, Thu, Jan 15, 2026 at 9:30 AM | Eventbrite](#)

The local authority has a statutory duty to offer all children and young people, who run away or who have been reported as missing a Return Home Interview.

Whilst missing from home or care, children and young people may experience abuse in any form, use substances, or experience poor mental health, and these situations could reduce the child's or young person's safety. Quite often, when children and young people are missing their education, family and social relationships, and life chances can often be hindered.

Missing children and young people are particularly vulnerable to trafficking, violent crime, drug use and exploitation, including sexual exploitation and criminal exploitation. If you are a carer or professional and would like to develop your knowledge and understanding in this area, please join us at one of our training events.

Free Asthma Awareness Training – Still Available

Do you work with children or young people in a childcare, clinical, or non-clinical setting?

Enhance your confidence and knowledge with **FREE online NHS training**, designed to help you safely care for children and young people with asthma.

Did you know that around **1 in 11 children** in the UK have asthma—approximately **1.1 million children**? Each year, over **60,000 children** are admitted to hospital due to asthma attacks.

The latest data from the child mortality database 2024, found that, sadly 54 children died from asthma.



Many of these deaths are preventable with the right care and awareness. The [Tier 1 Asthma Awareness Training](#) takes just **45 minutes** to complete and provides essential skills and knowledge to help you make a difference.

The Brook Sexual Behaviours Traffic Light Tool is a tool to identify, understand and respond to sexual behaviours in children and young people up to 18 years old.

Curiosity about bodies and sex is a normal part of development. However, some sexual behaviours can be a sign of abuse or CSE (Child Sexual Exploitation). Brook's tool can help you know the difference.

This tool was originally introduced in Tameside following a serious case review. It takes up to 2 hours to complete. TSCP still has plenty of licences available for all partners to access.

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](#)



The NSPCC are offering the following free webinars for school staff.

Mandatory reporting webinars

Free training from safeguarding experts, helping you prepare for the proposed statutory duty. Learn what you need to do to prepare for the new statutory requirements for the mandatory reporting of child sexual abuse in England.
[Mandatory reporting webinars | NSPCC Learning](#)

Online safety webinars for schools

Free training to help you keep children safe online, supported by Vodafone. This is an eight-part webinar series that covers the online safety topics children and young people want you to know about.
[Free online safety webinars for schools | NSPCC Learning](#)

Talk Relationships: delivering sex and relationships education training, for Teachers and School leaders'

Online training courses to support secondary school teachers and leaders to deliver inclusive sex and relationships education
[Sex and relationships \(RSE\) training courses for teachers and school leaders | NSPCC Learning](#)

Tameside Safeguarding Children Partnership Training Offer

A new TSCP training calendar of events is being developed, which will outline the multi-agency safeguarding training offer for professionals working with children and families in Tameside.

This 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 continuous learning and development.

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

Polite Request

Please Cancel If You Can't Attend

We recognise that situations change after you have booked to attend a session; however, we have seen several non-attendance and last-minute cancellations for training events. This always impacts the trainers who are delivering the events and other staff who would have liked to attend the event but were unable to book on as the event was fully booked. TSCP is proud to be one of the few partnerships that does not charge for training.

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, 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 - January 2026 | Research in Practice](#)

Practice Pointer - Supporting difficult conversations in social care 12:00 - 13:00
Wednesday, 3 December 2025

[Practice Pointer - Difficult conversations - Dec 2025 | Research in Practice](#)

Supporting equity, diversity and inclusion 13:00 - 14:00 Tuesday, 9 December 2025

[Supporting equity, diversity and inclusion | Research in Practice](#)

Practice Pointer - Supporting children's identities 12:00 - 13:00 Wednesday, 7 January 2026.

Posted on 12-11-2025

New Blog: Improving support for care leavers - bridging the gap between children's and adult services.

How can we improve support for care leavers as they transition to adulthood? Explore Research in Practice [resources to support National Care Leavers' Month](#).

Continuity, stability and a sense of belonging are vital for care leavers as they transition to adulthood. Sally Bishop, Director of [ROC Group](#), highlights the importance of bridging the gap between children's and adult services in a [new blog](#).

It's important for young people leaving care to feel safe and supported. One way to achieve this is through [Transitional Safeguarding](#). A recent [Strategic Briefing for sector leaders](#) and [blog](#) explore the key principles of this approach.

NSPCC Learning'

Why Language Matters: Responding to Child Abuse

Last updated: 06 Nov 2025

NSPCC Learning has published the latest blog in its Why language matters series. The blog explores some of the problems with using the term 'alleged' in safeguarding and child protection work, highlighting how the term can imply that professionals don't believe what a child has shared and how it can create barriers to children sharing their experiences. The blog outlines the importance of using simple, factual language when recording what a child has shared. [Why language matters: why we should avoid using 'alleged' when talking about child abuse and neglect | NSPCC Learning](#)

You can also sign up for the NSPCC weekly Casper Newsletter and a monthly learning newsletter by registering using the links below.

- [CASPAR | NSPCC Learning](#)
- [NSPCC Learning newsletter | NSPCC Learning](#)

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

Finally, we would like to wish you all a Happy Christmas and look forward to continuing to work with you all to support the children and families in Tameside throughout 2026.

