Tameside Council has been committed to the resettlement and integration of refugees for many years. Meeting families on arrival to Tameside and supporting with orientation, community integration, English language provision and employment and skills opportunities, ensuring households are living a fulfilled life in the UK.

Many refugees residing in Tameside want to improve their English and enter the workplace. A large number of refugees are already skilled, were businesses owners in their home countries and have advanced qualifications and experience and have gone on to find employment and training in the UK.

Our resettlement officers aim to work with refugees to increase confidence, navigate life in the UK and become part of the community.

B and his family fled Syria in 2016 and were relocated to Tameside as part of the Governments Syrian Resettlement Programme. B was a business owner in Syria and ran his own barbering shop, however this was sadly destroyed during the war. B was keen to continue to work in his profession in the UK and showed commitment and dedication to volunteering and re-training here in Tameside. With support from our team and other organisations and his own determination, B is now a business owner of a barbering shop in Tameside.

C came to the UK in 2022 under the Homes for Ukraine Scheme. She was highly qualified and experienced in her field and secured employment in analytics within a few weeks of being in Tameside. She has now secured a private rented property and is living independently from her sponsor.

D came to Tameside with his family as part of the Governments Gateway resettlement Programme. He worked to improve his English and went on to study at college and University to become a Theatre Technician within the NHS.

Refugees can experience loneliness, isolation, discrimination, uncertainty, loss of social status and separation from family members because of war, torture, trauma, and persecution. Refugees are also resilient, adaptable, tenacious, and aspirational. Refugees form part of our communities and workforce and this can be celebrated during refugee week.

Refugee Week 17-24 June 2024

Refugee Week is the world’s largest arts & culture festival celebrating the contributions, creativity and resilience of refugees and people seeking sanctuary. Established in 1998 in the UK, this annual festival aligns with World Refugee Day, celebrated globally on June 20th. In 2024, refugee week will take place from June 17th to 23rd.

The theme for Refugee Week 2024 is “Our Home”. From the places we gather to share meals to our collective home, planet earth: everyone is invited to celebrate what Our Home means to them.

Please visit <https://refugeeweek.org.uk> for information on events during this week, which you can be part of.

You can also see a list of events happening around Greater Manchester at <https://manchestercommunitycentral.org>

Here in Tameside, **The British Red Cross** are celebrating Refugee week on the 20 June 2024, between 10am-2pm at The Church of Nazarene, 230 Stamford Street, Ashton -Under-Lyne, OL6 7LJ. Activities; crochet making, canvas painting, nail art and Henna art. You can also watch a play entitled ‘Rising from the Ashes’, performed by the Red Cross Drama club. Refreshments, a nice hot meal, and deserts will be provided.