

1244426

Registered provider: Oxfordshire County Council

Monitoring visit

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This children's home is run by a local authority. The home's statement of purpose has changed to reflect that it provides medium- to long-term care for up to 4 children with social, emotional or behavioural difficulties.

There were two children living at the home at the time of the inspection.

The manager registered with Ofsted in October 2024.

Inspection date: 12 December 2025

This monitoring visit

The home was judged inadequate at the full inspection on 17 and 18 June 2025. Following a monitoring visit on 5 August 2025, a further full inspection was carried out on 7 and 8 October 2025, when it was again judged inadequate.

This monitoring visit was carried out to assess progress since the last inspection and to evaluate the effectiveness of actions taken to address identified requirements.

Since the last inspection, the provider has taken steps to make improvements. The manager has developed action plans to address previous requirements. While many actions are ongoing, the provider is on the right trajectory to achieve sustained improvement.

Leaders have taken effective action in response to two serious safeguarding concerns relating to staff and worked well with external safeguarding partners.

During this inspection, several strengths were identified, including the introduction of new care plans, positive behaviour management plans and assessments of new children. These ensure staff have the relevant information to provide appropriate and consistent support to the children.

Staff have received training in key areas to broaden their knowledge of safeguarding. This training includes recognising closed cultures, diversity and raising whistleblowing concerns. Staff have spoken positively about these opportunities for learning and feel confident about their practice.

Staff are beginning to work confidently and meaningfully with children. They are regularly recording key conversations and time with children. The subjects of these are more purposeful and aligned with the children's care plans.

A new supervision template has been introduced to strengthen safeguarding oversight and staff development. Supervision records are now clear and address staff concerns and children's care.

Managers are using individual staff strengths to develop areas of the children's care. For example, one staff member is leading a project on the development of the children's care plans.

Leaders have introduced a new quality assurance process. This is designed to improve the manager's oversight of children's progress and better identify areas for improvement in staff practice.

While progress has been made, the provider needs to continue to develop staff training and new systems need time to become fully embedded in daily practice. Therefore, some of the requirements have been restated and will be reviewed at the next inspection.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
07/10/2025	Full	Inadequate
17/06/2025	Full	Inadequate
04/12/2024	Full	Good
03/07/2023	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(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 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— assess whether each child is at risk of harm, taking into account information in the child's relevant plans, and, if necessary, make arrangements to reduce the risk of any harm to the child; help each child to understand how to keep safe; have the skills to identify and act upon signs that a child is at risk of harm; manage relationships between children to prevent them from harming each other; take effective action whenever there is a serious concern about a child's welfare; and are familiar with, and act in accordance with, the home's child protection policies; 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 effectiveness of the home's child protection policies is monitored regularly. (Regulation 12 (1) (2)(a)(i)(ii)(iii)(iv)(vi)(vii)(b)(e))	20 March 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—	20 March 2026

helps children aspire to fulfil their potential; and promotes their welfare. In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to— lead and manage the home in a way that is consistent with the approach and ethos, and delivers the outcomes, set out in the home's statement of purpose; ensure that staff have the experience, qualifications and skills to meet the needs of each child; 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; 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; feedback on the experiences of children, including complaints received; and use monitoring and review systems to make continuous improvements in the quality of care provided in the home. (Regulation 13 (1)(a)(b) (2)(a)(c)(d)(e)(f)(ii)(h))	
The positive relationships standard is that children are helped to develop, and to benefit from, relationships based on— mutual respect and trust; an understanding about acceptable behaviour; and positive responses to other children and adults. In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to ensure— that staff—	20 March 2026

meet each child's behavioural and emotional needs, as set out in the child's relevant plans; help each child to develop socially aware behaviour; encourage each child to take responsibility for the child's behaviour, in accordance with the child's age and understanding; help each child to develop and practise skills to resolve conflicts positively and without harm to anyone; communicate to each child expectations about the child's behaviour and ensure that the child understands those expectations in accordance with the child's age and understanding; help each child to understand, in a way that is appropriate according to the child's age and understanding, personal, sexual and social relationships, and how those relationships can be supportive or harmful; help each child to develop the understanding and skills to recognise or withdraw from a damaging, exploitative or harmful relationship; strive to gain each child's respect and trust; understand how children's previous experiences and present emotions can be communicated through behaviour and have the competence and skills to interpret these and develop positive relationships with children; are provided with supervision and support to enable them to understand and manage their own feelings and responses to the behaviour and emotions of children, and to help children to do the same; that each child is encouraged to build and maintain positive relationships with others. (Regulation 11 (1)(a)(b)(c) (2)(i)(ii)(iii)(iv)(v)(vi)(vii)(viii)(ix)(x)(b))	
The quality and purpose of care standard is that children receive care from staff who—	20 March 2026

understand the children's home's overall aims and the outcomes it seeks to achieve for children;

use this understanding to deliver care that meets children's needs and supports them to fulfil their potential.

In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to—

understand and apply the home's statement of purpose;

ensure that staff—

understand and apply the home's statement of purpose;
protect and promote each child's welfare;

help each child to understand and manage the impact of any experience of abuse or neglect;

help each child to develop resilience and skills that prepare the child to return home, to live in a new placement or to live independently as an adult;

make decisions about the day-to-day arrangements for each child, in accordance with the child's relevant plans, which give the child an appropriate degree of freedom and choice.
(Regulation 6 (1)(a)(b) (2)(a)(b)(i)(ii)(v)(vi)(ix))

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: 1244426

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Oxfordshire County Council

Registered provider address: Oxfordshire County Council, County Hall, New Road, Oxford OX1 1ND

Responsible individual: Charlotte Davey

Registered manager: Emma Admans

Inspector

Shaheda Dhandia, Social Care Inspector

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