

Children's homes – Interim inspection

Inspection date	20/10/2016
Unique reference number	SC389698
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home
Registered provider	Oracle Care Limited
Registered provider address	Unit 54 Wrest Park, Silsoe, Bedford MK45 4HS

Responsible individual	Amanda Knowles
Registered manager	Post vacant
Inspector	Trish Palmer

Inspection date	20/10/2016
Previous inspection judgement	Sustained effectiveness
Enforcement action since last inspection	None
This inspection	
The effectiveness of the home and the progress and experiences of children and young people since the most recent full inspection This home was judged requires improvement at the last full inspection. At this interim inspection the home was not judged. The home has been closed for four months. The registered provider has indicated that the home will not be operational for the next few months. Should the home decide to accept placements it is required to inform Ofsted of its intention before they do so. The requirements made at the last inspection will be assessed at the next full inspection.	

Information about this children's home

This home is operated by a private organisation and is registered to provide care and accommodation for two young people with emotional and/or behavioural difficulties. The organisation provides a registered school.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
15/03/2016	Interim	Sustained effectiveness
29/06/2015	Full	Requires improvement
06/03/2015	Interim	Declined in effectiveness
14/11/2014	Full	Good

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

Statutory requirements

This section sets out the actions which must be taken so that the registered person(s) meets the Care Standards Act 2000, 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
10: The health and well-being standard In order to meet the health and well-being standard, the provider must ensure that: (1)(b) children receive advice, services and support in relation to their health and well-being.	21/01/17
11: The positive relationships standard In order to meet the positive relationship standard, the registered person is required to ensure that staff: (2)(ix) 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 (x) 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.	21/01/17
13: The leadership and management standard In order to meet the leadership and management standard, the registered person is required to ensure that staff: (2)(c) ensure that staff have the experience, qualifications and skills to meet the needs of each child.	21/01/17
The registered person must ensure that each employee completes an appropriate induction. (Regulation 33 (1)(a))	21/01/17

Recommendations

To improve the quality and standards of care further, the service should take account of the following recommendations:

- Ensure that the home is a welcoming environment in all areas. This is with particular regard to the garden. ('Guide to the children's homes regulations

including the quality standards', page 15, paragraph 3.9)

- Ensure that all staff, including the manager, receive supervision of their practice from an appropriately qualified and experienced professional, which allows them to reflect on their practice and the needs of the children assigned to their care. ('Guide to the children's homes regulations including the quality standards', page 61, paragraph 13.2)
- Ensure that all children's case records are kept up to date. This is with particular regard to children's placement plans. ('Guide to the children's homes regulations including the quality standards', page 62, paragraph 14.3)

What the inspection judgements mean

At the interim inspection we make a judgement on whether the home has improved in effectiveness, sustained effectiveness, or declined in effectiveness since the previous full inspection. This is in line with the 'Inspection of children's homes: framework for inspection'.

Information about this inspection

Inspectors have looked closely at the experiences and progress of children and young people living in the children's home. Inspectors considered the quality of work and the difference adults make to the lives of children and young people. They read case files, watched how professional staff work with children, young people and each other and discussed the effectiveness of help and care given to children and young people. Wherever possible, they talked to children, young people and their families. In addition the inspectors have tried to understand what the children's home knows about how well it is performing, how well it is doing and what difference it is making for the children and young people who it is trying to help, protect and look after.

This inspection focused on the effectiveness of the home and the progress and experiences of children and young people since the most recent full inspection.

This inspection was carried out under the Care Standards Act 2000 to assess the effectiveness of the service 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'.

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