

Mental Health



OXFORD ARCHITECTS

Experience & Knowledge

Originally formed in 1962, Oxford Architects has developed into a substantial architectural practice working across all the major construction sectors, especially within the residential care and healthcare sectors, where we seek to create appropriate therapeutic and sustainable environments through innovation and continuous improvement.

Within this broad sector we have proven expertise in:

- Care homes for close-care, extra-care and dementia care
- Care facilities for adults & older persons with learning disabilities
- Care facilities catering for dual diagnosis, including mental health & physical disabilities
- Secure residential care facilities, including those detained under the Mental Health Act or with forensic backgrounds
- Acquired brain injury units
- Assisted living accommodation for people with Young Onset Dementia
- Palliative care

From our deep-rooted knowledge we are able to assist clients and service providers, seeking to achieve Care Quality Commission registration, through the maze of standards and 'best practice' guidance which applies to the different facilities within this broad range of care provision.

At Oxford Architects we have a wealth of accumulated knowledge and a complete understanding of the key issues which occur in the design and delivery of residential and specialist care accommodation.

From specialised older person's residential units through to secure residential mental health accommodation, we have developed a reputation for innovative, exciting, cost effective and appropriate design solutions which respond positively to our clients' requirements and aspirations.



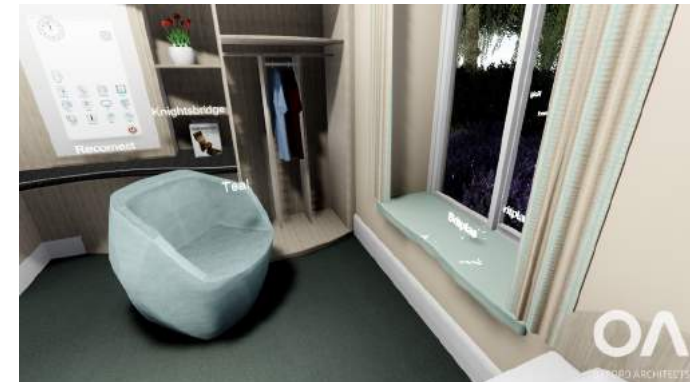
The 'Better Bedroom' Initiative

In collaboration with Design in Mental Health, P21+, Sussex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust and St Andrew's Healthcare, Matthew Balaam managed the delivery of the Better Bedroom. At the 2015 Design and Mental Health Conference 28 products were brought together to create the Better Bedroom. The bedroom has been showcased again at the 2016 conference and Matthew Balaam has worked closely with Knightbridge Furniture and Taurus Fitted Bedrooms Ltd to evolve the bedroom.

The objectives of the better bedroom are to:

- Push the boundaries of current design to a new level, particularly in anti-ligature fittings and fixtures;
- Use the most up to date technology;
- Stimulate and encourage the development of better products;
- Create a familiar homely environment
- Move the debate forward on anti-ligature fittings and fixings;
- Is cost effective over the whole life cycle
- Uses the most up to date technology
- Working with HBN 03-01

One of the key drivers for the Better Bedroom is to showcase new technology and it is clear to say that each supplier did not let us down, providing innovation within every product.



Residential Care

Working with leading residential care home providers, we have designed and delivered bespoke facilities, from concept and detailed design to completion and registration.

We have particular experience in the re-ordering, refurbishment and extension of existing properties, including Listed Buildings, bringing tired and unsuitable premises up to current standards, often working to limited budgets and timescales.

We have knowledge and experience in all levels of care home provision including supported living, assisted living, close-care, extra-care and dementia care. Alongside this, we have provided care facilities for adults & older persons with learning disabilities, and for those with a range of physical disabilities.



1. Kingfisher Court, North Baddesley, Hampshire 2 & 3. St Luke's Hospital, Oxford 4. Camino Healthcare, Oxfordshire
5. Phase 2, Kingfisher Court, North Baddesley, Hampshire

6. St Luke's Hospital, Oxford 7. BIBIC (British Institute for Brain Injured Children), Somerset 8. Catsbrain Farm, Swindon 8. Leonard Cheshire Homes, Banbury

Dementia Care

In our commitment to provide a well-designed and appropriate environment for the building users and residents, we not only pay close attention to the National Minimum Standards and department of Health guidance but we also seek to design buildings that meet or exceed the industry norms.

Working closely with Young Dementia UK Homes and using the University of Stirling Dementia Design Audit Tool, we have designed a new residential care model to allow people dealing with Young Onset Dementia to lead a normal life within a safe environment. A social hub will be incorporated in the village of Charlbury to create a meeting place and promote social interaction. 12 bespoke apartments will also be incorporated into the scheme giving residents the freedom to move through the building and enjoy views of nature and the countryside.



We were commissioned by Oxford Health NHS Foundation Trust to enhance the environments within the dementia wards at 5 community hospitals across Oxfordshire, known as 'Oxfordshire NHS Dignity Plus'. The initiative jointly funded by Oxfordshire County Council and the Oxfordshire Hospital Foundation Trust sought to improve the quality of hospital visits for the elderly within Abingdon, Didcot, Witney, Wallingford and Wantage.

De-cluttering - Removing unnecessary pin boards / notice boards, removing shiny flooring and 'painting in' store room doors (to reduce the apparent number of doors).

Colour and Light - Calming colours, good lighting were introduced to main circulation areas and we incorporated therapeutic modulated lighting into the scheme. Research has shown that modulated coloured light can have many beneficial effects, improving the ambience in patient rooms, but also improving sleep duration, mood and satisfaction of patients. WC and Bathroom doors were painted in primary colours with bright pictogram signage to improve independent access to toilets.

Art work - Individual wards were fitted with wall art to improve wayfinding and specific scenes were chosen to help locate the hospital in its environment e.g. cooling towers for Didcot Hospital.

Gardens - Sun shades, water features, seating areas, raised planters and aromatic sensory planting were introduced. Outdoor areas were enhanced with the introduction of sun shades, water features, seating areas, raised planters and aromatic sensory planting.

Locked, Low & Medium Secure Wards

Working in the independent and public sectors requires a thorough knowledge base of not only Department of Health and Health Offender Partnership guidance, NHS standards in the form of current and emerging HBNs and HTMs, but also keeping abreast of new research and quality initiatives promoted by organisations such as the Royal College of Psychiatrists. Alongside this guidance runs the National Minimum Standards, which are often open to interpretation by individual CQC Commissioners.

Oxford Architects has particular expertise in the design of secure mental health facilities, from locked wards and low secure through to medium and high security. We have a clear and complete understanding of the key issues of privacy, dignity and security for residents, staff and visitors. Our knowledge of the standards, key design considerations and technical solutions allows the provision of a non-institutional ligature-free therapeutic environment which is clearly demonstrated by the number and diversity of successfully completed commissions.

Within the last decade we have designed and delivered a 44-bedspace adolescent services unit, a 45-bedspace women's services unit, and most recently a 132-bedspace men's service unit. We have also fully refurbished and reconfigured a 56-bedspace low secure service, 12-bed low secure brain injury unit, a 10-bedspace PICU, a 13-bed low secure ward and 10-bed locked ward.

Our unrivalled knowledge of the key standards, best practice, spatial requirements, technical solutions and proprietary products allows us to deliver a well-designed and appropriate built solution.



Within secure environments we have provided facilities for a wide range of physical and cognitive conditions for men's, women's and adolescent services including:			
Challenging behaviour	Inpatient services	Brain injury	CAMHS
Older adult functional	Neuropsychiatry	Adult acute	Deaf
Learning disabilities	Eating disorders	Community	PICU
Personality disorder	Mother & baby	Forensics	ICU
Substance misuse			

1. William Wake House, St Andrew's Healthcare, Northampton 2. St Andrew's Healthcare, Essex 3. William Wake House, St Andrew's Healthcare, Northampton

4. Malcolm Arnold House, St Andrew's Healthcare, Northampton 5,6. Young Dementia UK Homes, Charlbury, Oxfordshire

High Security Buildings

Oxford Architects is unique as one of the special few practices with significant experience of designing buildings within a high security setting.

As one of the foremost secure mental healthcare establishments, Broadmoor Hospital presents a unique number of challenges to architects. Working continuously for the West London Mental Health Trust since 1995, the Practice has been responsible for some 200 projects, virtually covering the hospital's entire building stock, and ranging from small scale refurbishments to major building developments. The most notable commission is the Broadmoor Hospital redevelopment. The main concept was always to rethink

the way we house high secure patients and ensure that the buildings and landscape improve the wellbeing for everyone using the Hospital.

The wards have been designed to radiate around a central parkland and central building. Each ward will have its own identity reflecting the patient group as well as access to their own courtyard garden. The lay of the land allows for the perimeter fence to be constructed lower than the wards giving patients direct views of the surrounding countryside.

Works are currently taking place on site and patients will move in from February 2017 with a projected completion in 2019.



Our Practice

Oxford Architects is an RIBA Chartered Architectural Practice with offices in Oxford and Bristol.

Working on projects for national and international clients, we strive to achieve contemporary, sustainable and innovative designs to suit our client's brief, budgets and programme.

Operating in all design sectors and covering the whole range of building types, we provide a bespoke design service that responds specifically to the site's context and client's needs.

In partnership with our clients, our desire is to design and deliver architecture that fulfils its aspirations, contributes to place and is a pleasure to be within.



Commercial



Industrial



Community



Education



Residential



Healthcare



Transport



Masterplanning

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