

# Community Homes of Intensive Care and Education Limited

## Bramerton

### Inspection report

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24 February 2022

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### Ratings

Overall rating for this service	Inspected but not rated
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Is the service safe?	Inspected but not rated
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# Summary of findings

## Overall summary

Bramerton is a residential care home. It provides accommodation and personal care for up to 11 adults living with learning disabilities and autism. At the time of the inspection there were 11 people living at the service.

We found the following examples of good practice:

On arrival at the service, there was an infection control process which included checking a negative lateral flow test had been undertaken on the day of inspection. Temperatures were also taken and noted. Staff were wearing face masks during the inspection in line with government guidance. Vaccination status was checked.

There was a donning and doffing area outside of the main entrance to the home. This had been situated in order to reduce particular risks to people living in the home. There were facilities to put on and take off personal protective equipment before entering, or on leaving, the premises.

We saw a very thorough mental capacity assessment and best interest document used in respect of people having the capacity to be vaccinated. This was detailed and documented very well how decisions were made in people's best interests with the relevant parties involved.

The home was clean, and a regular cleaning schedule was in place and followed by all staff in the service. Regular audits took place which led to improvements and safety.

Staff had been trained and followed PPE [personal protective equipment] protocols. The provider ensured there was a sufficient stock of personal protective equipment (PPE). Staff had infection control training and understood the correct donning and doffing procedure.

The provider participated in the COVID-19 regular testing programme for both people and staff.

Additional, regular communication took place with relatives of people in the service. This included updates on the current government guidance and advice.

The provider ensured people's relatives were able to stay in touch with people. For example, through visits in line with government guidance.

## The five questions we ask about services and what we found

We always ask the following five questions of services.

### **Is the service safe?**

Further information is in the detailed findings below.

**Inspected but not rated**

# Bramerton

## **Detailed findings**

### Background to this inspection

We carried out this inspection under Section 60 of the Health and Social Care Act 2008 as part of our regulatory functions. This inspection was planned to check whether the provider is meeting the legal requirements and regulations associated with the Health and Social Care Act 2008.

As part of CQC's response to the COVID-19 pandemic we are looking at how services manage infection control and visiting arrangements. This was a targeted inspection looking at the infection prevention and control measures the provider had in place. We also asked the provider about any staffing pressures the service was experiencing and whether this was having an impact on the service.

This inspection took place on 24th February 2022 and was announced. We gave the service 24 hours' notice of the inspection.

# Is the service safe?

## Our findings

### Staffing

- The provider told us they had measures in place to mitigate the risks associated with COVID-19 related staff pressures

### How well are people protected by the prevention and control of infection?

- We were assured that the provider was preventing visitors from catching and spreading infections. The provider had thorough processes in place for visiting families and professionals. All checks took place on the inspector's arrival including asking for confirmation of vaccination status.
- We were assured that the provider was meeting shielding and social distancing rules. As the service supported people with learning disabilities and autistic people and was a small service, the approach was proportionate to the household set up. Only one person had to isolate due to COVID-19 and the provider ensured they were supported with staff spending more time with the person and providing meaningful activities. The provider had plans in place as other people in the service would struggle with self-isolation. Plans included increasing 1:1 staffing to guide the person and try to reduce close contact with others without them having to isolate.
- The provider had not had any new people move into the service and it was fully occupied with no plans for people to move on.
- We were assured that the provider was using PPE effectively and safely. We were told there was a plentiful supply of PPE and safe ways of disposing of used PPE.
- We were assured that the provider was accessing testing for people using the service and staff. Testing took place as per government guidance with staff testing daily before their shift started.
- We were assured that the provider was promoting safety through the layout and hygiene practices of the premises. Cleaning schedules were in place and there was a daily checklist completed by the registered manager.
- We were assured that the provider was making sure infection outbreaks can be effectively prevented or managed. The service was supported by the provider's COVID-19 contingency team who provided all the services with updated advice and guidance. This meant practice could be adapted as required.
- We were assured that the provider's infection prevention and control policy was up to date. The provider had documentation in place to cover all areas of both IPC and COVID-19 practices.

### Visiting in care homes

The provider was ensuring they were following the latest government guidance in relation to people continuing to have visits with their relatives

From 11 November 2021 registered persons must make sure all care home workers and other professionals visiting the service are fully vaccinated against COVID-19, unless they have an exemption or there is an emergency.

- The Government has announced its intention to change the legal requirement for vaccination in care homes, but the service was meeting the current requirement to ensure non-exempt staff and visiting professionals were vaccinated against COVID-19.