

Avon Autistic Foundation Limited

Woodwell House

Inspection report

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11 November 2020

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Ratings

Overall rating for this service

Inspected but not rated

Is the service safe?

Inspected but not rated

Summary of findings

Overall summary

Woodwell House provides accommodation and personal care for people who have a learning disability or autistic spectrum disorders. At the time of our inspection there were 12 people living at Woodwell House.

We found the following examples of good practice.

- There were clear measures in place to manage and reduce the spread of infection. This included not allowing visitors into the building and clear information provided at the entrance to the building.
- The premises looked exceptionally clean. Staff carried out enhanced cleaning programmes and checks to reduce risk and avoid the potential spread of infection. Staff and visitors used personal protective equipment (PPE) and followed hand washing guidance to keep people safe.
- Staff wore appropriate PPE and the provider had access to sufficient supplies. Staff had received training in infection prevention and control and were confident in the safe use of PPE.
- When staff first started wearing PPE, they spent time with people explaining why they would be wearing the items. Staff provided easy to read and picture-based information to support people's understanding. In addition, staff gave each person time to touch and examine the PPE before staff began to wear it. This reassured people and reduced their anxiety.
- People were supported to keep in touch with families. This included video and phone calls and staff were in regular contact with people's families. Some people had been able to meet with family members in local open parklands. Staff had a good understanding of the importance of social distancing and protecting the people they support, particularly when people do not have capacity to understand the risks.
- Staff received regular ongoing support and many staff had worked at the service for years. Staff only worked at Woodwell House and no agency staff had been used since the start of the pandemic. No staff had been absent because of coronavirus, but the provider stated that staff would receive full pay if anyone had to isolate or displayed symptoms of Covid-19.

Further information is in the detailed findings below.

The five questions we ask about services and what we found

We always ask the following five questions of services.

Is the service safe?

We were assured that people were protected by the prevention and control of infection.

Inspected but not rated

Woodwell House

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 coronavirus pandemic we are conducting a thematic review of infection control and prevention measures in care homes.

The service was selected to take part in this thematic review which is seeking to identify examples of good practice in infection prevention and control.

This inspection took place on 11th November 2020 and was announced.

Is the service safe?

Our findings

S5□ 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.
- We were assured that the provider was meeting shielding and social distancing rules.
- We were assured that the provider was admitting people safely to the service.
- We were assured that the provider was using PPE effectively and safely.
- We were assured that the provider was accessing testing for people using the service and staff.
- We were assured that the provider was promoting safety through the layout and hygiene practices of the premises.
- We were assured that the provider was making sure infection outbreaks can be effectively prevented or managed.
- We were assured that the provider's infection prevention and control policy was up to date.