

Lifeways Community Care Limited

Elm Tree House

Inspection report

Meadow View
Rochdale
OL12 7PB

Tel: 01706868176

Date of inspection visit:
07 January 2022

Date of publication:
13 January 2022

Ratings

Overall rating for this service

Good ●

Is the service safe?

Inspected but not rated

Summary of findings

Overall summary

Elm Tree House is a residential care home providing accommodation and personal care for up to 6 people with learning disabilities. At the time of the inspection there were four people using the service.

We found the following examples of good practice.

The provider was following best practice guidance in terms of ensuring visitors to the home did not spread COVID-19. Staff were adhering to personal protective equipment (PPE) guidance and practices.

Communal areas were well spaced and people, with support from staff were encouraged to maintain social distancing and use face masks in the community where required. Clear plans were in place for those who may be required to self-isolate. For those people who may struggle with isolation additional support would be provided.

The service had systems in place for safe visiting to allow people to see and speak to their friends and relatives. People were also supported to spend time in the community.

Staff continued to support people to access healthcare, and arrangements were in place should people need to attend hospital safely.

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

Elm Tree 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 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 7 January 2022 and was announced. We gave the service 24 hours' notice of the inspection.

Is the service safe?

Our findings

We have not changed the rating of this key question, as we have only looked at the part of the key question relating to staffing and the prevention and control of infection

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.
- 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.
- We were assured the provider was facilitating visits for people in accordance with the current guidance.

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 service was meeting the requirement to ensure non-exempt staff and visiting professionals were vaccinated against COVID-19.