

Canterbury Oast Trust

Farm House

Inspection report

Highlands Farm
Woodchurch
Ashford
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Date of inspection visit:
28 February 2022

Date of publication:
11 March 2022

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

Farm House provides accommodation and personal care for up to five people with a learning disability. The service is a detached old farm house set in a rural area on the outskirts of Woodchurch. At the time of the inspection there were four people living at Farm House.

We found the following examples of good practice.

Staff followed the latest visiting guidance and there were no visiting restrictions. Checks were completed on all visitors to Farm House, such as ensuring they had a negative Covid-19 test result.

People were supported to safely go out and about with staff and family. People told us they wore a face mask when they went out to help keep them safe.

Staff completed training on how to keep people safe during the COVID-19 pandemic, wore personal protective equipment and were regularly tested for COVID-19. Farm House was clean and there were regular checks to make sure the service remained clean and tidy.

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

Farm 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 28 February 2022 and was unannounced.

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.
- 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.

Visiting in care homes

People were supported to receive visitors. The provider followed current visiting guidance and there were no restrictions in place.

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.