

Maple Health UK Limited

Maple Cottage

Inspection report

5 Amber Court
Berechurch Hall Road
Colchester
Essex
CO2 9GE

Tel: 01206767117

Date of inspection visit:
29 April 2021

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07 June 2021

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

Maple Cottage is a residential care home providing personal care to people who have a learning disability and/or autistic spectrum disorder. The service can support up to 5 people. Maple Cottage is a detached bungalow located in a residential cul-de-sac in Colchester and is one of a group of five similar properties in the same cul-de-sac and owned by the same provider. Each property is a distinct individual service, though there are some shared facilities and joint social events.

We found the following examples of good practice.

At the time of our visit the service was at the end of an outbreak which had been well managed and contained within the home to two out of five people. National guidance was followed on the use of personal protective equipment (PPE) and staff had received training in infection control and prevention. The service was working closely with the local authority, Public Health England and the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) infection control team to ensure their infection prevention and control (IPC) practice was safe and people's needs were being met.

People had isolated within their bedrooms and were allocated own staff for continued one to one support for the duration of their isolation. Staff worked in teams and shift patterns were changed to limit staff movement and reduce footfall. Arrangements were in place to minimise the spread of infection such as the safe management of laundry, crockery and cutlery. Cleaning regimes had been increased including regular hard surface contact cleaning.

Whole home testing for people and staff, including weekly testing and rapid testing was undertaken. Consent was gained from people each time prior to testing. Best interest decisions were taken on an individual basis for people who did not understand. Tests were not undertaken when people declined despite best efforts to support or were likely to be distressed by the process.

The service adhered to government guidance and arrangements were in place for the safe facilitation of visiting by two named family members. This was within an individualised risk assessment framework and enabled people's right to meaningful family relationships be re-established following lockdown and Covid-19 outbreak.

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

Maple Cottage

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 the preparedness of care homes in relation to infection prevention and control.

The Inspection

This was a targeted inspection looking at the infection control and prevention measures the provider has in place. The inspection took place on 29 April 2021 and was unannounced.

Is the service safe?

Our findings

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

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