

The Sisters Hospitallers Of The Sacred Heart Of Jesus

St Augustine's Care Home

Inspection report

Simplemarsh Road
Addlestone
Surrey
KT15 1QR

Tel: 01932842254
Website: www.sistershospitallers.org

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28 February 2022

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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

St Augustine's Care Home is a care home with nursing for up to 52 older people, including people who are living with dementia. At the time of inspection there were 44 people living at the home.

We found the following areas of good practice

Current government guidelines in relation to COVID-19 were being followed by staff and visitors to reduce the risk of infection to people living at the home. This included comprehensive checks for visitors on arrival.

Some communal areas of the home had been renovated and refurbished during the COVID-19 pandemic to provide additional spaces for people to receive visitors and reduce the risk of the spread of infection.

When there had been people who had tested positive for COVID-19 the management had arranged for these people to be supported by separate staff to the other people living at the service. This helped to reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission around the service.

Cleaning had increased during the COVID-19 pandemic and frequently touched surfaces such as light switches were cleaned regularly throughout the day to reduce the risk of infection. There were hand sanitizer dispensers readily available around the home.

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

St Augustine's Care Home

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 announced. We gave the service 2 days' 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.
- 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's infection prevention and control policy was up to date.
- We were somewhat assured that the provider was making sure infection outbreaks can be effectively prevented or managed. There had been some gaps in auditing infection prevention and control measures at the home, however the provider assured us that they had a plan in place to ensure this was now completed regularly.
- Visits for people living at the home were facilitated in line with the current guidance.

We have also signposted the provider to resources to develop their approach.

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.