

Brierley Care Ltd

High Brake House

Inspection report

129 Chatburn Road
Clitheroe
Lancashire
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01 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

High Brake House is a care home which is registered to provide care and accommodation for up to 35 older people, including older people living with a dementia. There were 28 people living at the home at the time of the inspection.

We found the following examples of good practice.

The registered manager had established effective infection prevention and control procedures which were understood and followed by the staff. A screening process had been implemented for all visitors entering the building, which included health and temperature checks as well as lateral flow device tests. Visiting professional staff were also asked for proof of COVID-19 vaccinations.

Admission to the home was completed in line with COVID-19 guidance. People were only admitted following a negative COVID-19 test result and supported to self-isolate in line with current guidance to reduce the risk of introducing infection. People's health and well-being was carefully monitored during this time. A regular programme of testing for COVID-19 was in place for staff and people living in the home. This meant swift action could be taken when any positive results were received.

There were plentiful supplies of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and stocks were carefully monitored. PPE was available at stations throughout the home for staff to access when they were supporting people with personal care. PPE was disposed of safely to help reduce the risk of cross contamination. Staff had been trained in infection control practices and posters were displayed around the home to reinforce procedures. We observed staff were using PPE appropriately.

The layout of the service and the communal areas were suitable to support social distancing. The premises had a good level of cleanliness and was hygienic throughout. Housekeeping and care staff were following an enhanced cleaning schedule and there was good ventilation. The atmosphere of the home was cheerful and calm. We observed staff were attending to people's needs throughout our visit.

Comprehensive policies and procedures were in place to manage any risks associated with the COVID-19 pandemic. The policies and procedures were updated regularly following any changes in national guidance. Detailed infection prevention and control audits were carried out on a regular basis.

The five questions we ask about services and what we found

We always ask the following five questions of services.

Is the service safe?

Inspected but not rated

Further information is in the detailed findings below.

High Brake 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 2 February 2022 and was announced. We gave the service 24 hours 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 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.
- We were assured the provider was facilitating visits for people living in the home 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.