Genesis Homes (Essex) Limited

Newstead Lodge Nursing Home

Inspection report

Warwick Road
Southam
Warwickshire
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Tel: 01926813694

Date of inspection visit:
20 January 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

Newstead Lodge Nursing Home is registered to provide accommodation, nursing and personal care for up to 26 people. At the time of our visit there were 26 people living at the home. Some of these people were living with dementia. Newstead Lodge Nursing Home has bedrooms on the ground and first floor. The home had a main communal dining room, lounge, conservatory and garden.

We found the following examples of good practice.

Staff received training and followed good infection control practices. Staff wore personal protective equipment (PPE) effectively to safeguard people from the risk of infection.

Staff rotas were organised to minimise the risk of transmission of infections between people and staff. Staff were allocated to specific areas of the home to complete their shifts and took their breaks alone.

Staff took part in the 'whole home testing' programme which included a weekly polymerase chain reaction (PCR) and daily lateral flow test (LFT). Where staff tested positive, they were not allowed in the home until they had completed a self-isolation period as per government guidance.

The provider understood and met the COVID-19 staff vaccination requirement and ensured all deployed staff were fully vaccinated against COVID-19.

There were robust procedures to ensure visitors were prevented from catching and spreading infection. Visitors were required to show evidence of a negative lateral flow test taken on the day of their visit to show they did not have COVID-19. Visitors were also required to complete screening questions, have their temperature taken and wear PPE before entering the home.

People were admitted to the home safely. Staff followed government guidance to prevent people from spreading infection when admitted to the home from another health or social care service or the community.

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.	

Newstead Lodge Nursing 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 care homes with outbreaks of COVID-19, we are conducting reviews to ensure that the Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) practice is safe and that services are compliant with IPC measures. This was a targeted inspection looking at the IPC practices the provider has 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 20 January 2022 and was unannounced. We telephoned the provider from their carpark to understand the COVID-19 status of the home.

Is the service safe?

Our findings

Staffing
● The provider 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 not assured the provider was facilitating visits for people in accordance with current government guidance. At the time of our visit, the home had an active outbreak of COVID-19 and had stopped all visitors. Government guidance states each person living in a care home should be supported to choose an 'essential caregiver' who can visit them to provide companionship and care. Essential caregivers should be allowed to visit during a COVID-19 outbreak, unless they or the person they are visiting tested positive. The provider was unaware of this guidance until we brought it to their attention. They took immediate action to contact all relatives to inform them of the essential caregiver role. Following our inspection we received confirmation the home was open to all visitors as the outbreak had finished.
● We were somewhat assured that the provider was using PPE effectively and safely. However, single-use disposable aprons were not being stored correctly. PPE station points required aprons to be on a roll to enable staff to remove one, without contaminating others. We found aprons were not on a roll and staff had remove all of the aprons to unravel one for use. In addition, toilet paper was dispensed from a roll rather than a single-use dispenser. This increased the risk of spreading 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 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.

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.

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