

Only Care Limited

Bramble Lodge

Inspection report

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24 August 2021

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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

Bramble Lodge is a residential care home providing accommodation and personal care for 53 people aged 65 and over at the time of the inspection. The service can support up to 65 people. The accommodation is across three floors with a selection of communal areas on two of the floors. There are also large, accessible gardens.

We found the following examples of good practice.

- Visits were restricted in accordance with current government guidelines to reduce the risk of transmission of infection. People were supported to keep in contact with family through the use of video calls.
- Signage was clearly visible for all visitors advising of safe practice for testing, hand washing and use of personal protective equipment (PPE).
- People were supported in zones and cohorts within the home. Individual risk assessments were completed to ensure minimum disruption to people's lives whilst keeping them safe.
- Personal emergency evacuation plans had been updated for people who had moved rooms as part of the cohorting safety measures implemented .
- Measures to improve social distancing had been taken. For example, the number of chairs in the lounge and dining areas had been reduced with additional space between them.
- Following the recent outbreak the management team were planning changes to further improve social distancing by altering the use of communal areas such as the activity room and downstairs lounge.
- One to one activities with people were taking place.
- Staff wore PPE correctly, following current government guidelines.
- Staff followed guidelines to safely put on and take off PPE at designated areas with foot operated waste bins available.
- There was full engagement by people and staff with whole home testing.
- The cleaning schedule in place included enhanced deep and spot cleaning guidelines. Cleaning products were used were appropriate and diluted to meet guidelines.
- The management team worked with the NHS infection prevention and control (IPC) team to develop safe practices and reduce risks to people and the transmission of infection.
- IPC audits were completed monthly. Issues were identified and actioned. For example, damaged flooring to toilet and bathroom areas had been replaced to enable effective cleaning.
- The management team had made space available to support safe social distancing during staff break times. The number of staff on a break at any one time was also reduced.
- The provider had used the learning from the current outbreak to consider changes and improvements. This were able to provide assurance in relation to safe IPC practice.

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

We have not reviewed the rating at this inspection.

Bramble Lodge

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 practice was safe, and the service was compliant with IPC measures. This was a targeted inspection looking at the IPC practices the provider has in place.

Last inspection and update.

We undertook a targeted inspection on 22 March 2021. We found evidence that the provider needed to make improvements.

We identified a breach in relation to how infection, prevention and control was managed.

Regulation 12 HSCA RA Regulations 2014 Safe care and treatment Care and treatment was not provided in a safe way to ensure the risks to the health and safety of service users was assessed. The registered person had not assessed risks to prevent, detect and control the spread of infection.

We issued a warning notice.

At this inspection we found improvements had been made and the provider was no longer in breach of regulations.

This inspection took place on 24 August 2021 and was unannounced.

Is the service safe?

Our findings

S5□ 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 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 assured the provider was facilitating visits for people living in the home in accordance with the current guidance.
- We were assured that the provider was following current guidance for safe admissions to the home.