

Homerton University Hospital NHS Foundation Trust

Mary Seacole Nursing Home

Inspection report

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23 December 2020

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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

Mary Seacole Nursing Home is a residential nursing home providing personal and nursing care. The service can support up to 50 people across six separate units, each of which has separate facilities. At the time of inspection, 46 people were in the service.

We found the following examples of good practice.

The provider had a robust procedure for visitors in relation to infection control and prevention. Family members visiting people in the service had to arrange an appointment. Visiting times were staggered so as to avoid congestion at the main entrance and only one family member was nominated by people to be their regular visitor. Exceptions were made for visitors who required assistance from another family member or if the person in the home was receiving end of life care. In which case, more than one relative was permitted to visit them. Visitors had their temperature checked by staff at the entrance and this was recorded along with their contact details. There was clear and appropriate signage in place for staff, people and visitors.

The provider followed government guidelines regarding Covid-19 and adapted their procedures when guidelines changed. Changes were communicated to people, relatives and other regular visitors through letters, leaflets and emails to ensure they had up to date information.

Staff were provided full personal protective equipment (PPE) and there was a regular supply delivered to the service weekly. Additional PPE was in stock should it be required, for example face shields, surgical gowns, long sleeve overalls and goggles. Staff were encouraged and trained to use PPE effectively and safely. People in the service were supported to understand the need for staff to wear face masks. Hand sanitiser stations were conveniently located.

People were supported to self isolate should they test positive for Covid-19. Staff in each unit only worked in that unit to avoid any cross contamination. People and staff were tested regularly in line with government testing guidance for care homes.

There was a specialist isolation unit on the ground floor, which could be used as a designated setting. A designated setting is a separate accommodation unit for people who have tested positive for Covid-19 and have been discharged from hospital. They are cared for in the designated setting for the remainder of their isolation period before being moved on to their homes or other care settings. We saw that the isolation unit in the service was staffed separately from the rest of the nursing home. There were specific entrance and exit points for staff away from other areas of the building to avoid the risk of transmission of Covid-19 or other infections. There were robust procedures in place to ensure the risk of infection was minimised.

We were assured that this service met good infection prevention and control guidelines as a designated care setting.

Further information is in the detailed findings below.

The five questions we ask about services and what we found

We always ask the following five questions of services.

Is the service safe?

We were assured the service had safe infection control and prevention systems in place.

Inspected but not rated

Mary Seacole 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.

This was a targeted inspection looking at the infection control and prevention measures the provider has in place. As part of CQC's response to the coronavirus pandemic we are conducting a review of infection control and prevention measures in care homes.

The service had been identified for use by the Local Authority as a designated care setting in response to the Winter Plan for people discharged from hospital with a positive Covid-19 status. This inspection was to ensure that the service was compliant with infection control and prevention measures.

This inspection took place on 23 December 2020 and was announced.

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 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 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.

We have also signposted the provider to resources to develop their approach around designated settings so that managers and senior staff had a full understanding of the requirements.