

Alliance Care (Dales Homes) Limited

Kingston Care Home

Inspection report

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Date of inspection visit:
15 December 2020

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12 January 2021

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

Kingston Care Home is a care home providing personal and nursing care to up to 67 older people. There were 44 people living at the home when we inspected.

We found the following examples of good practice:

The service had been proactive in employing additional staff in order to provide enhanced support to people using the service at Kingston Care Home. This included trained nurses, support staff and domestic staff. The extra staff provided on shift also helped ensure there were no shift shortages due to staff sickness or isolation.

The service implemented isolation and zoning in line with good practice. Each floor was treated as a bubble with their own communal spaces and dining rooms. Where people were in isolation, signage was used to indicate this and barrier nursing procedures were effectively implemented. A responsible senior staff member oversaw and audited practice around areas such as the correct use of personal protective equipment (PPE), handwashing and cleanliness.

Staff and people at the home were engaged in the 'whole-home' testing programme. People living in the home were routinely tested for COVID-19 every four weeks and staff were tested weekly. Staff also had access to antibody testing.

The six bedded unit identified for use by the Local Authority as a designated care setting was located on the top floor, self-contained and physically separated from the other units. Access to this unit would be restricted to staff who needed to enter to perform their duties and they could do so via a stairway direct from a back entrance. People using the unit would enter via the front entrance and lift. These areas were already subject to a deep cleaning schedule and additional touch point cleaning would be implemented during any admission. Accommodation would be provided in single occupancy bedrooms, each with their own en-suite bathroom and toilet facilities.

Policies and procedures had been reviewed and updated since the pandemic started. The service regularly monitored and audited compliance with the infection prevention and control measures in place.

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

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

Kingston 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.

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 targeted inspection was to ensure that the service was compliant with infection control and prevention measures.

This inspection took place on 15 December 2020 and was announced.

Is the service safe?

Our findings

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.