

Ashlands NH Limited

Ashlands Nursing Home

Inspection report

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Lancashire
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Date of inspection visit:
23 October 2020

Date of publication:
02 November 2020

Ratings

Overall rating for this service	Inspected but not rated
Is the service safe?	Inspected but not rated

Summary of findings

Overall summary

Ashlands Nursing Home is a residential care home and at the time of the inspection was providing personal and nursing care to 16 people aged 60 and over. The service can support up to 21 people.

At the time of the inspection, there were strict rules in place throughout the County of Lancashire relating to social restrictions and shielding practices. These are commonly known as 'Tier 3 restrictions'. This meant the Covid 19 alert level was very high and there were tighter restrictions in place affecting the whole community.

We found the following examples of good practice:

The provider and registered manager had comprehensive processes to minimise the risk to people, staff and visitors from catching and spreading infection. These included weekly testing of staff and every 28 days for people living in the home. Hand sanitiser and personal protective equipment (PPE) were available throughout the home. There were signs to remind staff, visitors and people about the use of PPE, the importance of washing hands and regular use of hand sanitisers.

Where appropriate and consistent with infection control rules, 'socially-distanced' visits had been taking place so that people could safely visit their relatives. We noted the processes around this were consistent with the rules at the time of inspection and were regularly reviewed and adapted to reflect latest guidance and legislation. This was communicated effectively to people using the service and their relatives.

Infection control policy and people's risk assessments had been completed and revised following the pandemic so that people were protected in the event of becoming unwell or in the event of a Covid 19 outbreak in the home. The registered manager insisted people were tested before admission and consistent with local guidance, people were not being admitted to the home at the time of the inspection. This will be reviewed as appropriate and in line with any changes in restrictions. We were satisfied the service, staff, people and visitors were following the rules.

People's mental wellbeing had been promoted by innovative use of social media and electronic tablets so people could contact their relatives and friends. Staff had comprehensive knowledge of good practice guidance and had attended Covid 19 specialist training hosted by the local authority. There were sufficient staff to provide continuity of support and ensure safeguards were in place should there be a staff shortage.

Policies and infection control processes were regularly reviewed when guidance changed. The home was clean and hygienic. All staff had received Covid 19 related supervision and had access to appropriate support to manage their wellbeing should it be required.

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?

People were Safe. We were assured the provider managed infection prevention and control through the coronavirus pandemic.

Inspected but not rated

Ashlands 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 thematic review of infection control and prevention measures in care homes.

This inspection took place on 23 October 2020 and was announced. The service was selected to take part in this thematic review which is seeking to identify examples of good practice in infection prevention and control.

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 people and visitors to the home 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 any infection outbreaks could be effectively prevented or managed.
- We were assured that the provider's infection prevention and control policy was up to date.