

Gloucestershire Group Homes Limited

Cherry Tree Close

Inspection report

3 Cherry Tree Close
Nailsworth
Stroud
Gloucestershire
GL6 0DX

Date of inspection visit:
08 February 2022

Date of publication:
24 February 2022

Ratings

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

Summary of findings

Overall summary

Cherry Tree Close is a residential care home. It provides accommodation and personal care for up to two adults with learning disabilities and autistic spectrum disorder. At the time of the inspection there were two people living at the service.

We found the following examples of good practice.

- The management and staff team helped ensure that people's wellbeing was maintained throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. They had worked alongside people's family and healthcare professionals to reduce associated anxieties.
- People and staff were supported to stay safe throughout the pandemic. The management team offered practical and emotional support. One staff member said, "We have been 100% supported throughout COVID. I can call [the managers] anytime. They are brilliant."
- People were supported to access appropriate vaccinations, including COVID-19 vaccinations and boosters. Staff supported one person with a needle phobia by engaging fully with healthcare professionals and family members to reduce the anxiety and promote the vaccination.
- People had been supported to have visitors come to the service in line with COVID-19 restrictions and guidelines. People had also been supported to visit family members outside of the home in line with government guidance.
- People had a COVID-19 risk assessment that included adjustments required to meet their individual needs. For example, consideration was given to people who found testing difficult, and additional measures were put in place to reduce the risk.

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

Cherry Tree Close

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 the COVID-19 pandemic we are looking at how services manage infection control and visiting arrangements. This was a targeted inspection looking at the infection prevention and control measures the provider had 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 8 February 2022 and was announced. We gave the service two days' notice of the inspection.

Is the service safe?

Our findings

Staffing

- The provider told us they 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 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 somewhat assured that the provider was accessing testing for people using the service and staff. Although paperwork had acknowledged the most recent change in testing requirements from government guidance, this had not been updated in practice. We highlighted this to the registered manager who took immediate action to ensure testing was being completed in line with the most recent government guidance.
- 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.

People were supported to see their families in accordance with their preferences and in line with government guidance. Telephone contact supported bespoke visiting at the home. One relative said, "Visiting and contact with the home has been good. They communicate well; long may it continue"

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 Government has announced its intention to change the legal requirement for vaccination in care homes, but the service was meeting the current 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.