

Somerleigh Court Ltd

Somerleigh Court

Inspection report

Somerleigh Road
Dorchester
Dorset
DT1 1AQ

Tel: 01305259882

Date of inspection visit:
26 March 2021

Date of publication:
22 April 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

Somerleigh Court is a nursing home which accommodates up to 40 older people which includes a specialist dementia unit. 35 people lived there when we visited. The service is in Dorchester and is purpose built with rooms arranged over three floors with a communal lounge and dining area on each floor. There is lift and stairs access to each floor and a small secure outside garden space at the home. The service also runs a domiciliary care agency from this location, known as Close Care, which was not included in this inspection.

We found the following examples of good practice:

Staff had received infection control training and followed up to date infection prevention and control guidance to help people stay safe. Staff used personal protective equipment (PPE) correctly and in accordance with current guidance to minimise cross infection risks to people. Regular monitoring and audits were completed to make sure infection control standards were maintained.

Staff and people were regularly tested in line with the government's current testing programme. The home was clean and well maintained. Cleaning records showed increased cleaning of frequent touch points such as door handles and light switches.

All visitors were screened for any signs or symptoms of COVID 19 and underwent testing prior to their visit. Staff made sure all visitors wore the appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). When visiting was restricted, staff supported people to keep in touch with loved ones through telephone and video calls and e-mails. For example, an international birthday party by video link for a person with family in several different countries. The registered manager kept people and families up to date through regular updates, emails and by telephone.

Staff had made adaptations to support effective communication with people because of wearing masks. For example, by speaking more slowly and clearly, offering visual choices and using whiteboards. To support people's mental and physical wellbeing and prevent isolation, activity co-ordinators provided people with extra support through small group and one to one activities to meet their individual needs. For example, people make personalised bookmarks with messages for loved ones as gifts.

Staff said they felt valued and that management support, teamwork and communication was good.

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

Somerleigh Court

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 coronavirus pandemic we are looking at the preparedness of care homes in relation to infection prevention and control. This was a targeted inspection looking at the infection control and prevention measures the provider has in place.

This inspection took place on 26 March 2021 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.