

Potensial Limited

Larwood House

Inspection report

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Ratings

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

Summary of findings

Overall summary

Larwood House is a care home registered to provide accommodation and personal care for up to 9 people. The service supports people living with mental health conditions and learning disabilities. At the time of our inspection 9 people were living at the service.

We found the following examples of good practice.

Robust checks were in place for all visitors upon arrival at the home to reduce the risk of transmission. Relatives and friends received clear communication from the Registered Manager regarding current guidance and visiting.

There were specific areas throughout the home for staff to don, doff and dispose of their PPE safely. Staff were observed to be following current guidance on the level of PPE to be wearing.

The registered manager implemented and logged testing for COVID-19. This ensured that staff or people testing positive for COVID-19 could be easily identified. Immediate action was taken in the event of a positive result in order to protect everyone using the service and the wider community.

The registered manager and staff ensured that people living at Larwood House fully understood the ongoing pandemic and supported this by producing guidance in pictorial and easy read formats. A weekly newsletter had been developed explaining how guidelines effected the home and the policies people needed to follow accordingly.

People were supported to make informed choices regarding testing for COVID-19 and receiving the vaccination. The registered manager supplied people with information to allow them to make an informed decision and family member were included in the decision-making process where decisions were made in people's best interests.

The home looked clean, hygienic and maintained to a high standard. Staff carried out regular cleaning with additional cleaning and disinfection of high touch points such as door handles or handrails.

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

Larwood House

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 24 hours' 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 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.

Visiting in care homes

- The registered manager ensured people were able to see their visitors in such a way that did not increase the risk of the spread of infection throughout the home. Visits were taking place in line with current guideline using a booking system to ensure the service could effectively manage social distancing whilst friends and relatives visited.

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.