

Longwood Lodge Care Limited

Longwood Lodge Care Home

Inspection report

61-63 Queens Road
Oldham
Lancashire
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17 February 2022

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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

Longwood Lodge is a care home situated in Oldham. The home provides care for up to 40 people. At the time of the inspection 39 people were living at the home.

We found the following examples of good practice.

The provider had policies and procedures in place to ensure staff followed effective infection control guidance, while considering the impact on people living at the service. Staff, visitors and people had access to personal protective equipment (PPE) and stock was plentiful. Staff wore PPE in line with current guidance.

Visiting professionals were required to show a negative lateral flow test and evidence of COVID-19 vaccination status. Visiting arrangements were robust and in accordance with the most recent government guidance. The provider had implemented systems to ensure people maintained contact with their relatives when they were unable to visit the home. Social distancing was observed wherever possible and staff had completed training in infection control and COVID-19.

Guidance around the home on how to use PPE and maintain good hand hygiene was plentiful but not intrusive to areas of the home people used. Staff and people using the service were tested regularly for COVID-19. The home was very clean throughout and the management team had good oversight of the increased cleaning measures in place.

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

Longwood Lodge 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.

As part of CQC's response to care homes with outbreaks of COVID-19, we are conducting reviews to ensure that the Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) practice is safe and that services are compliant with IPC measures. This was a targeted inspection looking at the IPC practices the provider has 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 17 February 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 provider had identified specific areas of the home for relatives to visit people safely. Checks were in place and visitors to the home had to show evidence of a negative lateral flow test result and their COVID-19 vaccination status. Risks associated with visitors coming into the home were assessed and the service had implemented measures to mitigate those risks.

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.