

Peninsula Autism Services & Support Limited

Ridgecote

Inspection report

189 Ridgeway
Plympton
Plymouth
Devon
PL7 2HJ

Tel: 01752330495
Website: www.prioryadultcare.co.uk

Date of inspection visit:
13 January 2021

Date of publication:
12 February 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

Ridgecote is a residential care home and is registered to provide accommodation and support for people with a learning disability and/or autism. The service is registered to support a maximum of 10 people. At the time of the inspection there were 10 people living at the service.

Visitors to the home were not in all cases wearing Protective Personal Equipment (PPE) in line with government guidance. The registered manager addressed this concern immediately at the time of the inspection.

At the time of the inspection decorating was taking place in communal parts of the home. This was making it difficult for staff and people to effectively follow social distancing and hygiene practices. For example, staff were not easily able to access hand-washing facilities. We spoke with the provider at the time of the inspection and they assured us that this concern would be addressed, and plans for on-going decorating in the service would cease at the current time.

We found the following examples of good practice.

The provider participated in regular COVID-19 testing of people, staff and visitors. This ensured action could be taken swiftly to reduce the potential spread of infection if a positive test was returned. Risk assessments were completed for all people and staff and additional measures put in place when people had been assessed at higher risk of infection.

The environment was very clean. Additional cleaning was taking place including frequently touched surfaces. Infection control audits were carried out.

People were supported to maintain contact with their family and friends through the use of social media platforms and regular phone calls. When possible people had been supported to access the community safely with the use of face coverings and hand sanitisers provided.

The registered manager kept up to date with appropriate training in infection control. The registered manager ensured all staff had completed training to ensure they knew how to keep people safe during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The registered manager and provider ensured people living in the service, and staff, had access to additional support, including one-to-one meetings and contact by phone, to offer any emotional support needed.

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?

Further information is in the detailed findings below

Inspected but not rated

Ridgescott

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 coronavirus, we are conducting reviews to ensure that the Infection Prevention and Control practice was safe and the service was compliant with IPC measures. This was a targeted inspection looking at the IPC practices the provider has in place.

This inspection took place on 13 January 2021 and was unannounced.

Is the service safe?

Our findings

How well are people protected by the prevention and control of infection?

- ☐ We were not fully assured that the provider was preventing visitors from catching and spreading infection. We saw some visitors who were working in the service were not wearing PPE in line with government guidance and the homes visiting policy. We raised this with the registered manager at the time of the inspection and they addressed the matter immediately.

We recommend the provider undertake a review of the use of PPE to ensure that PPE is being used in line with government guidance to prevent and control the spread of Covid-19. We have also signposted the provider to resources to develop their approach.

- ☐ We were not fully assured that the provider was promoting safety through the layout and hygiene practices of the premises. At the time of the inspection decorating work was being undertaken in some communal parts of the home. Although we saw staff following social distancing and hand washing guidance the decorating made it difficult for them to do this effectively. For example, staff were not easily able to access handwashing facilities, and people were not able to easily distance themselves from contractors working in the service. We raised this with the registered manager and provider at the time of the inspection who told us they would immediately cease decoration within the service and review future improvement plans.

- We were assured that the provider was admitting people safely to the service.
- We were assured that the provider was accessing testing for people using the service and staff.
- 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.