

Aster House Healthcare Limited

# Aster House

## Inspection report

141 Sunderland Road  
Forest Hill  
London  
SE23 2PX

Tel: 02086130310

Date of inspection visit:  
09 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

### About the service

Aster House is a care home for up to 12 people with mental health needs. At the time of our inspection there were 12 people living at the home. The home was an adapted residential property with accommodation across three floors.

We found the following examples of good practice:

The risks associated with Covid-19 were considered and plans were in place to mitigate these risks. At the entrance to the home there was clear guidance in place requesting staff and visitors to adhere to government guidance with respect to personal protective equipment (PPE).

Staff had received training on infection control and COVID- 19, and they understood the signs and symptoms that might indicate ill health which would require medical attention. The layout of the building allowed for clear zoning if someone needed to self-isolate in their own room if they received a positive test result.

Staff had training in infection control and the use of personal protective equipment (PPE).

The registered manager was reviewing and updating risk assessments to ensure the home was following the most up to date government guidelines for COVID -19.

The service looked clean and smelled fresh. Staff followed cleaning schedules which were checked by the management team to ensure they were completed effectively. Additional cleaning of highly used areas of the home was carried out frequently throughout the day.

People were supported to see their family and friends. If this was not possible staff were using technology to keep family members updated.

## The five questions we ask about services and what we found

We always ask the following five questions of services.

### **Is the service safe?**

We were assured the service were following appropriate infection prevention and control procedures to keep people safe.

**Inspected but not rated**

# Aster House

## **Detailed findings**

## Background to this inspection

### The inspection

We carried out this inspection under Section 60 of the Health and Social Care Act 2008 (the Act) as part of our regulatory functions. We checked whether the provider was meeting the legal requirements and regulations associated with the Act. We looked at the overall quality of the service and provided a rating for the service under the Care Act 2014.

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 09 February 2021 and was announced. We gave the service 24 hours' notice of the inspection.

# Is the service safe?

## Our findings

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.
- We were assured the provider was facilitating visits for people living in the home in accordance with the current guidance.

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 service was meeting the requirement to ensure non-exempt staff and visiting professionals were vaccinated against COVID-19.