

The Regard Partnership Limited

Woodlands

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

Woodlands is a care home providing residential support for up to six young adults with learning disabilities, mental health and positive behavioural support needs. At the time of the inspection there were five people being supported. The service provides care in one domestic style property.

We were assured that staff were using PPE effectively to safeguard people from the risk of infection. PPE supplies were in place and staff were aware of how to use PPE effectively. People were protected because staff were using PPE appropriately to mitigate the risk of infection. The registered manager also provided evidence of individual risk assessment, planning and review to ensure people and staff were safe.

We found the following examples of good practice.

The service was clean throughout, and there were procedures to ensure any infection control risks were minimised. The communal areas had seating arrangements which supported safe distancing. Regular discussions took place between staff and people to ensure they understood the reasons for social distancing. Staff communicated with people sensitively, in order to support their understanding of the need for safe distancing in the service and the community.

Infection control policies and procedures had been updated in line with the national guidance relating to COVID-19 and staff were provided regular updates to ensure they were following best practice recommendations. The training for staff regarding infection control had been updated to include guidance relating to COVID-19.

People had the choice to remain in their own rooms and use communal areas as they wished. When people wanted to go out, they were supported by a staff member and wore masks in the community settings. Staff had increased the choice of daily activities to support people who had their usual daily activities restricted due to the COVID-19 lockdown.

The service arranged appointments for visitors to reduce risk. There was a designated area for visitors to meet with people. It was designed to reduce the amount of footfall through the service. People were supported to maintain relationships and contact with others through electronic devices.

Signage and information posters were in evidence at the entrance to the home to inform visitors of the procedures to follow. Plentiful supplies of personal protective equipment (PPE) was in evidence at the entrance to the home and throughout the building. People visiting the service were screened by a staff member before entry. This included temperature checks with consent before accessing the service.

The service had learnt from a previous outbreak to effectively manage any potential future outbreak. There was a contingency plan in place including supporting people needing to isolate in order to keep people safe.

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

Woodlands

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 8 April 2021 and was announced.

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 using PPE effectively and safely.
- 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 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.