

Care One Limited

Russell Lodge

Inspection report

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31 January 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

Russell Lodge is a registered care home providing personal care for up to five people with learning disabilities and/or autism spectrum disorder. At the time of Inspection four people were living in the home.

We found the following examples of good practice.

There were safe protocols for visitors to the home. Staff ensured visitors took a lateral flow test for COVID-19 at the home's entrance. Visitors had their temperature taken by staff to check it was within the threshold and they were not symptomatic of COVID-19. They were provided suitable personal protective equipment (PPE) to wear such as a face mask and apron to reduce the risk of catching or spreading infections. Visiting professionals were asked to provide evidence of a negative lateral flow test taken that day and their COVID-19 vaccination status prior to entering the home. All staff coming on shift had to have a negative test result prior to starting their shift. The registered manager recorded all test results.

During a recent outbreak of COVID-19 in the home, people who had tested positive self-isolated in their rooms to manage the spread of infection. Infection control procedures and government guidance related to COVID-19 were followed to help staff continue to support people safely. People were supported to keep in contact with relatives by telephone or video calls while they were self-isolating. They were able to have visitors once their period of self-isolation was completed.

The service had enough staff to meet people's needs. Staff and people took part in a COVID-19 testing programme in accordance with government guidance for care homes. All staff had completed relevant training in infection control and using PPE. We saw staff using PPE correctly and safely. Handwashing guidance was displayed throughout the home. We observed the premises to be clean and tidy. There was a daily cleaning schedule in operation to maintain hygiene and help prevent the spread of infections.

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

Russell Lodge

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 31 January 2022 and was unannounced. We informed the service shortly before our arrival to make the registered manager aware of our visit.

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 somewhat 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 somewhat assured that the provider's infection prevention and control policy was up to date.

Visiting in care homes

- The provider was facilitating visits for people living in the home in accordance with the latest government 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 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.

We signposted the provider to assist them with sending out COVID-19 test samples, contacting the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) and developing effective infection, prevention and control audits.