

Cygnet Learning Disabilities Midlands Limited

Beeches

Inspection report

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Date of inspection visit:
04 December 2020

Date of publication:
08 January 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

Beeches is a residential home providing accommodation and personal care to young people living with learning disabilities and autism. The service can accommodate 12 people, at the time of the inspection there were 11 people living at the service.

We found the following examples of good practice.

- Most of the people living at the service required one to one care and support. This meant that staff were able to occupy people isolated in their rooms when they could not access communal areas.
- Communal areas were spacious, so it was possible to socially isolate people in the same room when eating or relaxing.
- The service was split into two areas. Staff and people living at the service stayed in their zoned areas to reduce the risk of cross infection.
- The provider had obtained a large supply of PPE (Personal Protective Equipment) and staff had stations to put on, remove and dispose of PPE safely.
- Cleaning had been increased, and frequent touch points were cleaned regularly.
- Regular testing of people and staff was in place. The service had been supported by the infection control team who provided extra training in PPE use and handwashing.
- The service used various methods to communicate information about COVID-19 and PPE to people living at the service to reduce anxieties.
- There were easy read posters and social stories to explain and help people understand what was happening.
- The service had implemented a picture chart for people who could not speak, to help them to identify and express if they had signs or symptoms of COVID-19.
- The service supported people to maintain as normal a life as possible to reduce the distress change would cause. People still went out for walks to get fresh air.
- The registered manager had put in extensive risk assessment for people and staff due to the complexities of people at the service.
- For example, it was not always possible for staff to socially distance when supporting people, so staff and people were kept in bubbles to minimise contact.
- Externally the service had a large garden that had been utilised for visiting, internally the service had a large lounge prepared to receive visitors when restrictions were lifted.
- The management team had supported staff by working additional shifts at night to cover colleagues who were self-isolating.
- The registered manager told us staff had worked really hard and supported each other at a difficult time.

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?

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

Inspected but not rated

Beeches

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 04 December 2020 and was announced.

Is the service safe?

Our findings

S5□ 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 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.