

Karuna Care Limited

# St Aubyns Nursing Home

## Inspection report

35 Priestlands Park Road  
Sidcup  
Kent  
DA15 7HJ

Tel: 02083004285

Date of inspection visit:  
11 February 2022

Date of publication:  
22 February 2022

## Ratings

Overall rating for this service	Inspected but not rated
Is the service safe?	Inspected but not rated

# Summary of findings

## Overall summary

St Aubyn's Nursing Home is a care home that provides accommodation and nursing care for up to 39 older people. At the time of the inspection 28 people were using the service.

We found the following examples of good practice:

The provider checked all visitors to the home for signs and symptoms of COVID 19. Visitors were required to follow the government's guidance on hand washing, sanitising and wearing personal protective equipment (PPE) before entering the home. We saw prominent signage displayed throughout the home reminding staff and visitors on the use of PPE and to socially distance. We observed staff and visitors wearing appropriate PPE and socially distancing throughout our visit.

The registered manager told us there had always been enough staff to meet people's needs throughout the pandemic. They block booked agency staff that only worked at St Aubyn's. All staff including agency staff had received training on COVID-19, infection control and the use of PPE. The provider carried out checks on agency staff to make sure they were fully vaccinated before they were permitted to work at the home.

There was a COVID-19 testing program in place for people using the service and for staff. When people or staff showed symptoms of COVID-19 they were required to self-isolate. The home was very clean throughout. The provider employed a housekeeping team that facilitated a cleaning schedule at the home.

COVID-19 risk assessments were carried out with people using the service and staff to ensure they could live and work safely at the home. The registered manager told us they worked with the GP, health care professionals, the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), the Local Authority Commissioning Team and UK Health and Security Agency to ensure people received appropriate care throughout the pandemic.

The second floor of the home had been designated for isolating positive COVID 19 cases and new admissions to the home. The provider had a COVID-19 specific contingency plan in place which they had followed throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. The registered manager told us there were no restrictions on visiting, this was in accordance with the most up to date guidance.

## 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 was following appropriate infection prevention and control procedures to keep people safe.

**Inspected but not rated**

# St Aubyns Nursing Home

## **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 COVID-19 pandemic we are looking at how services manage infection control and visiting arrangements. This was a targeted inspection looking at the infection prevention and control measures the provider had 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 11 February 2022 and was announced. We gave the service 24 hours' notice of the inspection.

# Is the service safe?

## Our findings

### Staffing

- The registered manager told us the provider had robust 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 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.
- 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 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.