

Abbeyfield Newcastle Upon Tyne Society  
Limited(The)

# Abbeyfield Residential Care Home - Castle Farm

## Inspection report

Castle Farm Road  
Newcastle Upon Tyne  
Tyne and Wear  
NE3 1RF

Tel: 01912857174

Date of inspection visit:  
16 February 2022

Date of publication:  
15 March 2022

## Ratings

Overall rating for this service

Inspected but not rated

Is the service safe?

**Inspected but not rated**

# Summary of findings

## Overall summary

Abbeyfield Residential Care Home - Castle Farm is registered to provide accommodation for up to 24 people with residential care needs. When we inspected there were 24 people living at the home, some of whom were living with dementia.

We found the following examples of good practice.

The registered manager recognised the impact periods of isolation and restrictions had had on people's wellbeing. They took proactive steps to minimise these impacts, for instance reintroducing a visiting pianist and employing a second activities organiser to increase meaningful activities.

Staff worked hard to provide high levels of continuity of care, ensuring agency staff had not been required at any point during the pandemic.

The registered manager had increased staffing levels to ensure increased cleaning and testing could be maintained.

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?**

Further information is in the detailed findings below.

**Inspected but not rated**

# Abbeyfield Residential Care Home - Castle Farm

## **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 16 February 2022 and was announced the day before.

# Is the service safe?

## Our findings

### Staffing

- The provider 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 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.