

Sense

# SENSE - 70 Castleton Road

## Inspection report

70 Castleton Road  
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23 February 2022

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## Ratings

Overall rating for this service	Inspected but not rated
Is the service safe?	<b>Inspected but not rated</b>

# Summary of findings

## Overall summary

Sense Castleton Road is a care home which provides accommodation and personal care for up to six people with learning disabilities and sensory disabilities. At the time of this inspection there were six people using the service.

We found the following examples of good practice.

Visitors underwent a thorough pre-screening process before entering the care home which included direction to handwashing facilities.

People were also able to maintain contact with family and friends through video calls facilitated by staff.

The service had a cleaning rota; one for day staff and one for night staff. The daily handover sheet included all the cleaning duties.

The home was clean and free from malodour. There were several handwashing places and hand gel was available.

The service did not currently have any workforce challenges. They were fully staffed. At the height of the pandemic, they were supported by the furloughed Sense Day Service staff to cover gaps. When agency staff were used the registered manager worked alongside them.

## 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**

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## **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 23/02/2022 and was announced. We gave the service 24 hours' notice of the inspection.

# 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 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.

### Visiting in care homes

The provider was following government guidelines. The service had a COVID-19 risk assessment which covered the management of risks associated with visiting. There were no restrictions on visiting and the only requirement was for the visitor to give two days advance notice. Each person using the service could have three named visitors. However, where families chose not to visit, the service arranged video calls. Visitors were asked to show their vaccination status and to carry out a lateral flow test.

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 have also signposted the provider to resources to develop their approach. The service had purchased a disinfecting machine to help control the spread of COVID-19. Disinfecting machines clean the air by applying chemicals through fog, mist or vapour. We sent the service a link to government guidance to ensure they knew how to use this machine safely. The registered manager told us this machine had not been used since January 2021 and told us they would be sharing the guidance with the staff team and other managers.