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Cherry Tree Lodge

Inspection report

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Tel: 01202429326

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10 January 2022

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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

Cherry Tree Lodge is a residential care home providing personal care to people aged 65 and over. At the time of the inspection 11 people were living at Cherry Tree Lodge. The service is registered to accommodate up to 20 people. Cherry Tree Lodge is an adapted house with bedrooms on the first and ground floors. Communal living areas are situated on the ground floor where there is access to a back garden. People have access to the first floor via a stair lift.

To ensure people's needs were met and to not place any workforce pressures on the service, the provider had taken the decision to stop taking any new admissions into the home.

There was a procedure in place to welcome visitors to the home, face masks were available and hand sanitisers at the entrance. Visitors were asked to complete a health questionnaire and have their temperatures taken before going to the persons room they were visiting. Visitors including health care professionals were asked to show their vaccination status.

The home was spacious allowing ease for social distancing. The home had designated outside space for visiting in the garden area and the provider had turned a vacant room on the ground floor into a visiting room to provide a choice of location to the person and their visitor. The room had a patio door which led into the garden area and was accessed by visitors via an outside entrance. This meant visitors could see their loved ones without entering the building, reducing the risk of spreading COVID-19. The service layout provided simple zoning off areas in case of a COVID-19 outbreak to prevent the risk of spreading infection. The home was light, airy, uncluttered and visibly clean throughout. Cleaning products were in line with government guidance and available throughout the home.

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) was in plentiful supply and the home had several PPE stations around the home to ensure staff always had access to PPE. Hand sanitizer was available at the entrance of the home and throughout the service. Staff had completed training supplied by local Clinical Commissioning Groups in the safe ways of donning and doffing PPE. Relatives told us they were asked to wear masks when inside the home and told us staff wore PPE.

People told us they felt safe and well cared for. People were comfortable with staff and visitors wearing masks and understood it was to prevent the spreading of infection.

The home had routine testing in place for staff and people using the service.

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

Cherry Tree 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 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 10 January 2022 and was announced. We gave the service 48 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 somewhat assured that the provider was preventing visitors from catching and spreading infections. Visitors were asked to show their vaccination status before they were able to enter the premises, however, not all visitors were asked to produce a negative lateral flow device test. This is not in line with current government guidance. The provider amended this process after our visit. We have also signposted the provider to resources to develop their approach.
- We were assured that the provider was meeting shielding and social distancing rules.
- We were not assured that the provider was admitting people safely to the service. This is because the provider had taken the decision to not take any new admissions into the service at this time.
- 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 somewhat assured that the provider's infection prevention and control policy was up to date. The current policy required updating to reflect the current government guidance. We have signposted the provider to resources to develop their approach.
- We were somewhat assured the provider was facilitating visits for people living in the home in accordance with the current guidance. Whilst the provider was facilitating visits inside and outside the home, the service had not set up essential care givers to ensure visits could continue in the event of a COVID-19 outbreak. People returning from outside visits were not being tested with a lateral flow device every second day for ten days following their visit out as per current government guidance. We have signposted the provider to resources to develop their approach. The provider updated their processes to be in line with the current government guidance and communicated this to people, relatives and staff.

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 service was meeting the requirement to ensure non-exempt staff and visiting professionals were vaccinated against COVID-19.