

Heathcotes Care Limited

Heathcotes (Kirby Muxloe)

Inspection report

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28 February 2022

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Ratings

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

Summary of findings

Overall summary

Heathcotes (Kirby Muxloe) provides accommodation and personal care to up to seven people living with a learning disability and/or autism. The main building can accommodate six people and a small bungalow at the end of the garden can accommodate one person. At the time of our inspection there were seven people using the service.

We found the following examples of good practice.

Safe staffing levels were maintained at the service. All staff had completed training in relation to infection prevention and control (IPC) and correct use of personal protective equipment (PPE), including how to put it on and remove it safely.

Cleaning schedules were in place and frequency of cleaning had been increased throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. During the day high touch areas and communal areas were cleaned regularly with appropriate cleaning products.

COVID-19 testing was being carried out for people using the service and staff in line with the latest guidance. The provider had effective systems in place to check staff and professional visitors were vaccinated against COVID-19.

Policies, procedures and risk assessments in relation to COVID-19 were up to date and reviewed regularly.

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

Heathcotes (Kirby Muxloe)

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 COVID-19, we are conducting reviews to ensure that the Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) practice is safe and that services are compliant with IPC measures. This was a targeted inspection looking at the IPC practices the provider has 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 28 February 2022 and was unannounced.

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.
- The service had clear visiting protocols in place and information was provided to all visitors to ensure they were familiar with IPC and PPE procedures. The service was meeting the government guidelines in relation to visiting.

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.