

Allison House Thornaby Limited

# Allison House

## Inspection report

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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

Allison House is a residential nursing home providing personal and nursing care for up to 38 people living with dementia. At the time of the inspection there were 34 people using the service.

We found the following examples of good practice.

- There had been no recent admissions to the home but the provider had systems in place to allow people to be admitted safely.
- People who were isolating or had tested positive for COVID 19, had their own dedicated staff team who met all their needs, including their meals and social support. Separate changing, bathroom and break areas were available to ensure social distancing of the different staff teams.
- National guidance was followed on the use of personal protective equipment (PPE). There was clear signage on the correct use of PPE and handwashing techniques and staff had received appropriate infection control and prevention training.
- There was a plentiful supply of PPE items throughout the home and used items were disposed of safely.
- Temperature checks were taken of all visitors to the home. There was a supply of PPE in the entrance lobby for visitors to use and a lot of clear signage explaining what was required of visitors.
- Local restrictions on visiting were in place at the time of the inspection and alternative measures such as video calls were being used. Visits were arranged where people were on end of life care and carefully managed to ensure risks were kept to a minimum.
- The environment was very clean. Additional cleaning was taking place including of frequently touched surfaces. Laundry staff had a good understanding of safe working practices and the laundry was clean and well organised.
- There were detailed risk assessments to manage and minimise the risks COVID 19 presented to people who used the service, staff and visitors.
- Staff had been consulted about individual risks or concerns. Alternative working arrangements had been offered to those staff who were most vulnerable.

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?**

No ratings were awarded following this inspection. This inspection was undertaken to ensure the service was compliant with infection control and prevention measures.

**Inspected but not rated**

# Allison House

## **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 coronavirus, we are conducting reviews to ensure that the Infection Prevention and Control practice was safe and the service was compliant with IPC measures. This was a targeted inspection looking at the IPC practices the provider has in place.

This inspection took place on 3 November 2020 and was announced.

# Is the service safe?

## Our findings

S5□ 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 have also signposted the provider to resources to develop their approach.