

Wellhead Lane Limited

Wellhead Lane

Inspection report

16 Wellhead Lane
Westbury
Wiltshire
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Date of inspection visit:
24 February 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

Wellhead Lane is a small home for up to five people with a learning disability and/ or Autism. Accommodation is provided in one adapted building with a garden and some parking. People had their own rooms and bathrooms. At the time of the inspection there were three people living at the home.

We found the following examples of good practice.

Risk assessments were in place and were reviewed regularly. This gave staff management plans to work safely during COVID-19 which followed up to date guidance. People had their own risk assessments which covered their individual needs and risks of catching COVID-19. Measures were in place to support people to carry out their chosen activities as safely as possible.

People were testing for COVID-19 regularly and staff were checking their temperatures daily to help identify any symptoms of COVID-19. Staff were also testing as per the government guidance. The registered manager had provided staff with training on how to test for COVID-19 and had checked their competence to test safely.

Staff had been provided with training and updated guidance throughout the pandemic. Staff told us they felt safe working at the service and well supported. We observed staff wearing appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) and were told there was plenty of stock available.

All visitors had to provide a negative Lateral flow test (LFT) prior to being able to enter the service. Appropriate PPE had to be worn at all times and staff checked visitors' temperatures. Professionals had to provide proof of COVID-19 vaccination status before being allowed indoors. There were posters visible giving guidance on a range of COVID-19 measures such as wearing masks.

The home was clean and being cleaned throughout the day by staff. Records were being kept of the cleaning carried out and monitored by the registered manager. Surfaces and high contact areas were cleaned frequently.

People had been supported to keep in touch with families and visiting was being supported. People had also been able to visit their families in their homes and some had been able to go on family holidays with risk management in place.

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

Wellhead Lane

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 24 February 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

- People were supported to maintain contact with their families. Visiting had been supported indoors and outdoors and people had been able to go to their family members homes where they wished.

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.