

Apex Care Homes Limited

Alicia Nursing Home

Inspection report

105-115 and 33-35 Marsh Road
Luton
Bedfordshire
LU3 2QG

Tel: 01582560500
Website: www.apexcare.co.uk

Date of inspection visit:
14 February 2022

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08 March 2022

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

Alicia Nursing Home is a nursing home providing personal and nursing care to up to 35 people. At the time of our inspection, 32 people were using the service.

We found the following examples of good practice.

Systems were in place to support safe visiting at the service. All visitors were required to produce a negative lateral flow COVID-19 test prior to visiting their relative or friend. In addition, visitors were required to have their temperature taken and complete screening questions.

Personal protective equipment (PPE) was required to be worn by all staff and visitors to the service. Training had been provided to staff advising of the safe putting on, taking off and wearing of PPE. All staff were observed wearing PPE correctly during the inspection. The registered manager told us the service had adequate supply of PPE stock and were able to replenish stocks when required.

People had been supported to maintain contact with their family and friends during the COVID-19 pandemic through use of video and telephone calls. In line with government guidance the registered manager had promoted window visits, use of a dedicated visiting pod and the role of the essential care giver. Visiting restrictions were reviewed in line with government guidance. Risk assessments were in place to support people accessing the community in line with easing of the COVID-19 pandemic restrictions.

On the day of inspection, the home was visibly clean with no mal odours. A compliment of housekeepers were employed at the service who completed cleaning of the environment including frequently touched surfaces such as door handles and light switches.

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

Alicia Nursing Home

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 14 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.
- The provider accommodated visitors to the service in line with current government guidance.

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.