

National Star Foundation

Elizabeth House - Gloucester

Inspection report

Elizabeth House
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11 November 2020

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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

Elizabeth House is a care home providing personal and nursing care to people with physical disabilities and/or learning disabilities or autistic spectrum disorder at the time of the inspection. The young people living at Elizabeth House attended the main National Star College campus for their education. There were 24 people living at Elizabeth House at the time of the inspection.

We found the following examples of good practice

- The service was clean and free of malodour. There was a cleaning schedule in place to ensure that all areas of the service were cleaned.
- The service had implemented personal protective equipment (PPE) stations which were situated near the main entrance and near the garden entrance. When visitors came to the home, staff supported the visitors to ensure they followed safe infection control, PPE guidance and to check whether they had any symptoms of coronavirus before entering the home. This included taking the visitor's temperature.
- The service had a designated indoor area for visitors that was used for relatives to visit their loved ones. This area had its own entrance and PPE station.
- People were supported to receive regular testing for Covid-19, taking into account their mental capacity and best interests. All people being admitted to the service were tested for coronavirus by the care staff on admission.
- Staff were compliant with weekly testing requirements and the registered manager ensured test results were followed up when not received. When unclear results had been received, the registered manager and provider sought and followed advice from PHE.
- Individual risk assessments had been conducted on staff which identified any vulnerabilities they may have in relation to coronavirus and any mitigating action that the provider needed to implement.
- The service had appropriate infection control policies and procedures in place. These had been developed in line with current government guidance. There was signage around the home for staff and visitors on what measures were being taken to minimise the risk of spread of infection. These messages were also being communicated through easy read formats, email and on the provider's website.

The five questions we ask about services and what we found

We always ask the following five questions of services.

Is the service safe?

We were assured the service was following safe infection prevention and control procedures to keep people safe.

Inspected but not rated

Elizabeth House - Gloucester

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.

This was a targeted inspection looking at the infection control and prevention measures the provider has in place. As part of CQC's response to the coronavirus pandemic we are conducting a thematic review of infection control and prevention measures in care homes.

This inspection took place on 11 November 2020 and was announced. The service was selected to take part in this thematic review which is seeking to identify examples of good practice in infection prevention and control.

Is the service safe?

Our findings

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 regular 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.