

Mrs M Mather-Franks

Highbury Residential Care Home

Inspection report

Highbury
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21 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

Highbury Residential Care Home is a residential care home providing personal care for up to 8 people with learning disabilities.

We found the following examples of good practice.

Safe arrangements were in place for visitors to the service including professionals and others. This included information on infection control procedures displayed in the lobby, rapid COVID-19 testing, hand washing and PPE use.

Staff and visiting professionals were asked to provide evidence of their vaccination status against COVID-19 prior to entering the home, as well as a recent lateral flow test. We saw records which showed that appropriate checks were made for people entering the home.

A programme of testing for COVID-19 was in place for all staff and people living at the service.

Stocks of PPE (personal protective equipment) were readily accessible to staff and visitors, and regular checks were made to ensure they were being used.

At the time of our inspection, nobody living at the service had COVID-19, however isolation plans were in place to manage the spread of infection should this occur. This meant people could self-isolate in their rooms when necessary.

Policies, procedures, risk assessments and guidance relating to COVID-19 were up to date, which supported staff to keep them and others safe. Management and staff regularly communicated to keep up to date with guidance.

Management conducted regular checks and audits to ensure the service was kept clean and tidy.

Staff were trained in infection prevention and control procedures, including the procedure for safely putting on and taking off PPE (donning and doffing).

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

Highbury Residential Care 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 21 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.
- We found that the providers approach to visiting aligned with the 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.