

Aspens Charities

St Saviours Road

Inspection report

56 St Saviours Road
St Leonards On Sea
East Sussex
TN38 0AR

Tel: 01424443657
Website: aspens.org.uk

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14 April 2021

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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

St Saviours provides accommodation and personal care for up to three people who have learning disabilities. Some people had specialist needs associated with Autism and behaviours that challenged. Three people used the service at the time of inspection.

We found the following examples of good practice.

The home was following government guidance in relation to visitors. On arrival at the service all visitors had their temperature taken and were asked to carry out a Lateral Flow Device (LFD) COVID-19 test before they could enter the home. Results were recorded. Visitors were asked to wear personal protective equipment (PPE) and advised to remain socially distant from people and staff.

There was a programme to ensure people and staff were tested regularly. This was alongside daily temperature testing for everyone and observing people for any signs or symptoms of COVID-19.

The manager followed current guidance in relation to infection prevention and control. There was a cleaning schedule that demonstrated that all areas of the house were cleaned regularly. The home had remained COVID-19 free and had contingency plans should any person or staff come into contact with anyone with COVID-19 or test positive. All staff wore PPE and had received training on infection control, putting on and taking off PPE, supporting people with oral hygiene and hand washing.

Individual risk assessments had been written for people and staff to consider specific risks for each in relation to any underlying health conditions or specific considerations that were needed. The manager told us that the organisation had been very supportive throughout the pandemic in ensuring staff had up to date advice and guidance. The organisation had recently completed a staff survey and the manager was awaiting the outcome.

People had been supported to maintain contact with family members by telephone or through social media. Risk assessments had been written to support visits with relatives as lockdown rules changed. Although people had not been able to attend day centres, they had been encouraged to take daily exercise walking on the sea front and local parks. One person was keen to tell us that they did not want to return to their day centre anymore. The manager confirmed that alternative activities were under consideration and now that gyms and swimming pools were open again these would be offered to people.

Please read the safe section for further information of the findings.

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

St Saviours Road

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 the preparedness of care homes in relation to infection prevention and control. This was a targeted inspection looking at the infection control and prevention measures the provider has in place.

This inspection took place on 14 April 2021 and was announced.

Is the service safe?

Our findings

S5□ How well are people protected by the prevention and control of infection?

- We were somewhat assured that the provider was meeting shielding and social distancing rules. On arrival at the home whilst signing the visitor's book, there was also a staff member and a service user in the hallway, so it was not easy to remain socially distant. This did not allow enough space and time for visitors to put on PPE quickly and safely. The manager said it would be easier for visitors to use the side entrance and this could be rearranged as all visits were by appointment only. On two separate occasions staff came into the office and they did not maintain a safe distance from the inspector. The manager had noted this and following the inspection confirmed this had been raised with staff.
- We were somewhat assured that the provider was promoting safety through the layout and hygiene practices of the premises. The home was well ventilated. However, the office had doors that led directly into the conservatory. The conservatory was regularly used by one person so at times the door needed to be closed for confidentiality. This had not been highlighted as part of the home's risk assessment or consideration given to how long the office door could be closed before ventilation was needed. The home's washing machine was in the kitchen. The manager was clear about what would happen in terms of laundry should anyone have an infection or be suspected of having an infection but there was no written procedure. We asked the manager if they would have to adapt their fire risk assessment during a COVID -19 outbreak. The manager confirmed this had not been considered but that they would assess any specific risks.
- We were assured that the provider was preventing visitors from catching and spreading infections.
- 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 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 have also signposted the provider to resources to develop their approach.