

Albany Farm Care (Hampshire) Limited

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Inspection report

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Date of inspection visit:
25 February 2022

Date of publication:
08 April 2022

Ratings

Overall rating for this service

Inspected but not rated

Is the service safe?

Inspected but not rated

Summary of findings

Overall summary

Albany Farm Care (Hampshire) Limited is a residential care home providing care and support for six people at the time of the inspection. They predominantly provide care to up to six people who may have a learning disability, a mental health condition or physical disabilities.

We found the following examples of good practice.

The registered manager had followed current guidance in relation to infection prevention and control. The home was open to visitors although most people chose to go out to meet their families and friends.

Comprehensive checks were carried out for visitors on arrival including checking LFD results, COVID pass checks, temperatures and a COVID questionnaire. PPE and hand gel were widely available around the home.

The registered manager had detailed care plans and risk assessments associated with COVID-19, they had consulted with people and where relevant their families when implementing them.

The registered manager and staff communicated regularly with family of people living in the home. They also had effective relationships with other professionals such as GP surgeries for the benefit of people living in the home.

The home was clean and tidy, staff followed cleaning rotas. Care staff documented cleaning being carried out within the home these documents were checked daily by the management team to ensure it was carried out effectively. All staff ensured hourly disinfection of frequently touched surfaces of the home for example, light switches and door handles.

There were ample supplies of PPE at the home. Staff had received training on how to 'Don and Doff' (put on and take off) their PPE to reduce the risk of cross-contamination. Staff explained to people why PPE was needed, and people accepted this.

Staff engaged in a programme of regular Covid-19 testing. Communication between the management team, people and staff was good.

The provider had an up to date infection control policy in place and carried out appropriate environmental audits. The provider ensured staff were kept up to date with government guidance.

The five questions we ask about services and what we found

We always ask the following five questions of services.

Is the service safe?

Inspected but not rated

Inspected but not rated

Albany Farm Care (Hampshire) Limited

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 25 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 somewhat 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

Visits had not always taken place in line with government guidelines due to one person being at increased risk. However, visitors are now welcomed into the service while following a structured entry, temperatures were tested, and visitors were asked a series of questions to ascertain visitors' movements and COVID-19 status. LFD checks were also undertaken. People were also supported to visit their friends and families outside of the service. This meant people had a choice of where to meet their friends and families which had a positive impact on their wellbeing.

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.

During the inspection we identified fans were not always clean, the seals in one bathroom were black and wearing away, some clinical waste bins pedals did not always operate to open the bins and the flooring in one person's room was ripped and needed replacing. The registered manager and deputy were responsive to these concerns and took immediate action to make improvements. The bins have now been replaced, fans have been cleaned and added onto the cleaning schedule. The seals in the bathroom and the flooring in one person's bedroom have been highlighted to the maintenance team for immediate attention.