

Aspens Charities

# St Matthew Road

## Inspection report

3-5 St Matthews Road  
St Leonards On Sea  
East Sussex  
TN38 0TN

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Date of inspection visit:  
11 February 2021

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### Ratings

Overall rating for this service	Inspected but not rated
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Is the service safe?	<b>Inspected but not rated</b>
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# Summary of findings

## Overall summary

St Matthew Road provides accommodation and personal care for up to 10 people who have learning disabilities and some associated physical and/or sensory disabilities. Ten people used the service at the time of inspection. There were two properties. In one house there were three people living in the main house and there was one single person flat. In the second property there were four people in the main house and two single person flats.

We found the following examples of good practice.

The home was following government guidance in relation to visitors. We were told essential maintenance visits were also carried out safely. For example, all visitors wore personal protective equipment (PPE) and were advised to remain socially distant from people and staff. All essential visitors had their temperature taken on arrival and they were asked to carry out a Lateral Flow Device (LFD) Covid 19 test before they could enter the home. The results were recorded.

The registered manager followed current guidance in relation to infection prevention and control. There were cleaning schedules to be completed daily and weekly. The home had remained Covid free but had contingency plans in place 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, the putting on and taking off of PPE and hand washing. There was easy read information displayed on the notice board for people to read about Covid 19. Individual risk assessments had been written for people and staff to consider specific risks for each in relation to any underlying health conditions or any ethnic considerations.

In recent weeks there had been an occasion when one person had been in contact with someone who had tested positive for Covid 19. The registered manager told us the actions they took to ensure people and staff safety. A new staff rota was introduced to ensure there was no movement between both houses. The person concerned was isolated to their bedroom and received meals there. Bathroom and laundry facilities were changed to minimise the spread of any possible infection. The registered manager told us this had been a helpful exercise to see what worked and did not work and what would need to be changed if they had an outbreak.

Staff told us they felt well supported by the registered manager and by the organisation. The registered manager told us they met virtually with other managers from within the company and this was a good support system. They also said this gave opportunities to share ideas and seek advice on their contingency plans. Following their last meeting, the home was in the process of introducing a new tool for documenting when bedrooms were deep cleaned.

Staff ensured people who were shielding understood why this was the case. People told us they were waiting on the update from the government to tell them when things would change. They told us they were

looking forward to being able to see their families and going back to day centres. One person said, "I talk to my family all the time by telephone, but I haven't seen them for ages, and I can't wait to see them." Staff confirmed that people were supported to maintain contact with relatives by social media or telephone. People told us the measures in place at St Matthews kept them safe. Those who could, continued to attend day centres and went for a daily walk. A number of people had jigsaws they were doing, some enjoyed using iPads and there was a walking treadmill to ensure people could exercise daily.

## 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

# St Matthew 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 coronavirus 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 11 February 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 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.