

Royal Bay Care Homes Ltd

The Old Vicarage

Inspection report

Weekly Village
Kettering
Northamptonshire
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07 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

The Old Vicarage is a residential home providing nursing and personal care for up to 38 people in an adapted building. At the time of the inspection there were 26 people in residence.

We found the following examples of good practice.

People were supported by staff to keep in touch with those important to them. Relatives and friends visiting the home were required to complete a COVID-19 test, had their temperature checked and wore Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). To reduce the risk, visitors used designated entrances and exits to minimise contact with other residents.

Family members had been supported to visit relatives in receipt of end of life care, when the home had been closed to visitors, during a COVID-19 outbreak.

The home during a COVID-19 outbreak had adopted zoning and cohorting measures to reduce the risk of spreading the infection.

Staff engaged with a programme of regular testing for COVID-19 consistent with government guidance and had provided evidence of their vaccination status against COVID-19 which was recorded.

Visiting professionals were asked to provide evidence of their vaccination status against COVID-19 prior to entering the home and evidence of a negative COVID-19 test.

People and their family members had been involved in decisions related to COVID-19, which included testing and vaccination.

We saw PPE was accessible within the home and staff used it in accordance with the most up to date guidance. Information about the correct use of PPE and handwashing guidance was displayed throughout the home. Staff had undertaken training on infection prevention, which included good hand hygiene, and the correct use of PPE.

Systems were in place for the management of infection prevention and control, which included a schedule of cleaning, based on the level of risk. Audits for infection prevention and COVID-19 were undertaken monthly in response to changing needs and 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?

Further information is in the detailed findings below.

Inspected but not rated

The Old Vicarage

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 7 February 2022 and was announced. We gave the service one working days' 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 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

- People were supported to have regular contact through visits with family members and friends. Visitors were required to follow government guidance for visiting care homes, which included undertaking an LFD test, having their temperature taken and wearing PPE.
- Government guidance and advice from local health protection teams was adopted during COVID-19 outbreaks, with regards to closing the home to visitors. However, family members continued to visit where their relative was receiving end of life care, along with visits from health care professionals.

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 service was meeting the requirement to ensure non-exempt staff and visiting professionals were vaccinated against COVID-19.