

Essex Blind Charity Read House

Inspection report

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Essex
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16 October 2020

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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

Read House is registered to provide accommodation and personal care for up to 40 older people who are blind or visually impaired or older people with physical disability. The service does not provide nursing care. At the time of our inspection there were 32 people using the service.

We found the following examples of good practice.

People were supported to meet with family members and friends in a COVID-19 secure area. The registered manager had created a separate area of the home where families could meet with people safely. This involved dividing and sealing a meeting room into two using clear plastic and speakers to allow people to talk with each other. Visitors are provided with a separate door into the room and have their temperature taken and recorded when they arrive.

People were supported by the service to access foot care from medical professionals. A separate room at the rear of the service, with its own entrance from outside, had been transformed into a clinical area for chiropodists to continue to see people. People accessed the room in appropriate PPE and a privacy screen was used to prevent face to face contact with people however, their feet could be placed underneath and treated appropriately.

Further information is in the detailed findings below.

The five questions we ask about services and what we found

We always ask the following five questions of services.

Is the service safe?

We were not always assured the service were following safe infection prevention and control procedures to keep people safe.

Inspected but not rated

Read House

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.

This was a targeted inspection looking at the infection control and prevention measures the provider has in place. As part of CQC's response to the coronavirus pandemic, we are conducting a thematic review of infection control and prevention measures in care homes.

This inspection took place on 16 October and was announced. The service was selected to take part in this thematic review which is seeking to identify examples of good practice in infection prevention and control.

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 admitting people safely to the service.
- We were assured that the provider was accessing testing for people using the service and staff.

We have also signposted the provider to resources to develop their approach.