

# Community Homes of Intensive Care and Education Limited

## Sennen Lodge

### Inspection report

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Date of inspection visit:  
23 February 2022

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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

Sennen Lodge is a residential care home providing accommodation and personal care for up to eight adults with a learning disability. There were eight people living at the home when we visited. The home is based on two floors. The second floor was accessible via stairs. There were communal rooms and a garden which people could access.

We found the following examples of good practice.

Staff had taken a pragmatic approach to encouraging social distancing. They had considered people's needs and the impact of implementing measures which people did not understand or may find distressing. This was a balanced approach which considered both safety and wellbeing.

The provider had taken appropriate steps to help people access Covid-19 testing where possible and in their best interests. The provider had supported people to overcome barriers around understanding and apprehension to testing. There was a Covid-19 testing programme in place for staff.

There were risk assessments and contingency plans in place to mitigate the impact of a Covid-19 outbreak at the home. This included adapting areas of the home to create different communal spaces and encouraging people to isolate.

The home was clean and hygienic. The provider had implemented policies of enhanced cleaning focussing on high contact areas such as door handles. This helped minimise the risk of infections spreading. Staff had also received specific training in relation to Covid-19.

Due to the complexity of people's needs, the service was particularly vulnerable to the impact of workforce pressures. The registered manager and staff had worked to mitigate these risks but told us it was challenging maintaining the good quality of care in these circumstances.

There was a good supply of personal protective equipment (PPE) available. We observed staff wearing appropriate PPE in the correct way.

## 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**

# Sennen Lodge

## **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 23 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 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

- The provider was facilitating visits for people living in the home in accordance with the current guidance.

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.