

Larchwood Care Homes (South) Limited

Oake Meadows Care Home

Inspection report

Wyvern Road
Taunton
Somerset
TA1 4RA

Tel: 01823337674

Date of inspection visit:
12 January 2022

Date of publication:
21 January 2022

Ratings

Overall rating for this service	Inspected but not rated
Is the service safe?	Inspected but not rated

Summary of findings

Overall summary

Oake Meadows Care Home is registered to provide personal and nursing care to up to 105 people. However, the registered manager informed us the maximum beds in operation is 77. Of these 20 beds are commissioned and supported by the NHS and offer rehabilitation after a hospital admission.

The home specialises in the care of older people, including people living with dementia. At the time of the inspection there were 70 people at the home.

The building is divided into four separate areas. Two areas provide care to people who have nursing needs, one area cares for people with personal care needs and the fourth area provides short stay rehabilitation care for people.

We found the following examples of good practice.

Throughout our visit we observed staff following good infection prevention and control practices. Staff wore Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) appropriately and were able to tell us the level of PPE needed for different tasks.

Observational audits, such as hand washing and the safe putting on and removal of PPE, were being carried out. This helped to make sure all staff were following safe practice.

There were systems to make sure people could keep in touch with friends and family. This included visits in accordance with government guidance and phone and video calls. Some people had nominated essential carers and these visitors continued to visit during the current outbreak in accordance with guidelines.

People appeared relaxed and comfortable with the staff who supported them. Activities were continuing which helped to ensure people received ongoing social stimulation. People told us they were content at the home. One person said, "It's a nice place to be."

Staff felt well supported by the management team, the provider and their colleagues. Staff said they were kept up to date with current company guidance and there was good teamwork.

The registered manager praised the staff team for their hard work and commitment to keeping people safe.

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

Oake Meadows Care Home

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 care homes with outbreaks of COVID-19, we are conducting reviews to ensure that the Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) practice is safe and that services are compliant with IPC measures. This was a targeted inspection looking at the IPC practices the provider has 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 12 January 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.
- We were assured 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 service was meeting the requirement to ensure non-exempt staff and visiting professionals were vaccinated against COVID-19.