

AKR Care Homes Limited

The Grange

Inspection report

Stump Lane
Chorley
PR6 0AL

Tel: 01257241133

Date of inspection visit:
24 February 2022

Date of publication:
22 March 2022

Ratings

Overall rating for this service

Inspected but not rated

Is the service safe?

Inspected but not rated

Summary of findings

Overall summary

About the service

The Grange is a residential care home providing personal care for up to 26 adults, including those who are living with dementia. At the time of our inspection there were 20 people living at the home.

We found the following examples of good practice.

There were policies, procedures and contingency plans in place in relation to infection control. However, the policy in relation to infection outbreaks could have been more specific to COVID-19. The registered manager addressed this following the inspection. The registered manager was the infection control lead for the service and so was responsible for ensuring people were protected from the risk of infection and the staff team were appropriately trained.

Risks to people's health and safety were being assessed and people were protected from the risk of cross infection, including COVID-19. We had recently spoken with four family members, who all provided us with positive feedback about the service, the staff and management of the home, as well as the support people received. All family members told us they felt their relatives were safe living at The Grange.

Government guidance was being followed in relation to isolation criteria and testing programmes for service users, staff, visitors and visiting professionals. The well-being of staff was also being considered and effective support provided, as required. All permanent staff had received both COVID-19 vaccinations and everyone who lived at the home had also received additional booster doses. All staff had completed specific training in relation to infection control and the management of COVID-19.

There were two domestic staff on duty at the time of our visit and cleaning schedules were in place. The environment was clean and hygienic throughout and fully stocked Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) stations were positioned throughout the home. We were told there were ample supplies of PPE available and we saw staff to be wearing PPE correctly.

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 Grange

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 (IPC) 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 24 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 for staff members.
- 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 somewhat assured that the provider's IPC policy was up to date. Although there was a contingency plan in place in relation to the pandemic, the infection outbreak management policy concentrated on infections, such as flu, gastroenteritis, diarrhoea and vomiting and did not refer specifically to COVID-19. The registered manager addressed this following the inspection.

Visiting in Care Homes

- The practices around visiting during the pandemic helped to ensure visitors were protected from the risk of cross infection, including the transmission of COVID-19. The registered manager told us visiting had resumed following a recent outbreak of COVID-19, although relatives of people on end of life care would still be supported to visit during an outbreak. The registered manager told us that no relatives had taken up the opportunity of becoming an essential care giver to enable them to continue visiting during an outbreak of COVID-19.

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. However, although the service was meeting the current requirement to ensure non-exempt permanent staff and visiting professionals were fully vaccinated against COVID-19, the registered manager had not received confirmation to demonstrate agency staff had been vaccinated in accordance with current government guidance. A regular agency care worker was on duty at the time of our inspection. The registered manager told us she had requested this information from the agency but had still not received it.

Confirmation was received following our inspection to indicate agency staff working at the home had been fully vaccinated.