

Mrs Meetranee Chintaram

Abbey Lodge Care Home - St Albans

Inspection report

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Tel: 01727825899

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02 February 2021

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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

Abbey Lodge Care Home - St Albans is a residential care home providing personal and nursing care to eight people at the time of the inspection.

We found the following examples of good practice.

The provider was transparent when sharing information with people and their relatives about how the service is managing the COVID-19 pandemic. At the time of the inspection there was a decision made to restrict visits. People had access to other means to communicate with their family. For example, video calls and phone calls.

The service was able to cohort and zone sections of the property to ensure that people were safe when there was an outbreak in the home.

People we spoke to felt the staff had been supportive and reassured them throughout the pandemic. People and staff were involved in regular testing, in addition they were in the process of having the vaccination.

The service was clean and hygienic. Robust cleaning measures were put into place. For example, they had measures in place to make sure high touch areas maintain a high level of cleanliness. When the service had an outbreak, they had an external company complete a deep clean which included disinfecting the whole service and purifying the area.

The provider had developed policies, procedures and guidance for the service which had been implemented. Quality assurance audits were being completed during the COVID-19 pandemic to reflect best practice. Staff knew how to immediately instigate full infection control measures to care for a person with symptoms to avoid the virus spreading to other people and staff members.

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

Abbey Lodge Care Home - St Albans

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 coronavirus, we are conducting reviews to ensure that the Infection Prevention and Control practice was safe and the service was compliant with IPC measures. This was a targeted inspection looking at the IPC practices the provider has in place.

This inspection took place on 02 February 2021 and was unannounced.

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 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.