

Church Farm at Rusticus Limited

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Inspection report

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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

Church Farm at Rusticus is a care home with nursing. The service is registered for 76 beds, and 69 people were living there at the time of our inspection. The service is split into four separate 'households' known as Primrose House, Hawthorn House, Bluebell House, and Hickling Lodge. Church Farm at Rusticus provides residential and nursing care for older people with dementia and other health conditions.

We found the following examples of good practice.

Staff were following the current government guidance in relation to infection prevention and control. The provider had arrangements in place to help prevent the spread of COVID-19 and other infections. All staff received training on the correct use of PPE and infection control. The management team did regular checks on staff to ensure they were following infection control procedures correctly. The management team regularly audited infection control practices to ensure staff were following them.

The provider was following the current government guidance on visiting. There was a clear system for visitors in place to ensure they followed the current guidance on the use of personal protective equipment (PPE) and social distancing. All visitors were screened for symptoms of respiratory or other infections before being allowed to enter the home.

The provider had ensured that people were able to maintain contact with relatives using technology whilst visiting was limited. The provider had made arrangements for relatives to visit that reduced the risk of any infection coming into the service. The home was clean and well maintained throughout.

The provider had arrangements in place to ensure people and staff were tested for COVID-19 in accordance with current government guidance. Risk assessments were carried out with people and staff to ensure they could safely live and work at the service.

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

Church Farm at Rusticus

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 1 February 2022 and was unannounced.

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

There were restrictions on visiting the service which were in line with current government guidance. The provider also had a visiting 'pod' facility where relatives and friends could visit people in a safe way.

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.