

Edenplace Limited

Ashley House

Inspection report

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22 February 2022

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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

Ashley House is registered for a maximum of 16 people offering accommodation for people who require nursing or personal care. Ashley House specialises in supporting adults with mental health conditions. At the time of our inspection visit there were 16 people living at the home.

Care and support was provided across two floors to people who had their own private room and shared use of communal lounges and bathrooms.

We found the following examples of good practice.

- There was a clear process to allow relatives to meet family members. Relatives were required to provide a negative lateral flow test before being allowed into the home to help keep them and those they were visiting, safe. Relatives were encouraged to wear personal protective equipment (PPE) to limit cross infection.
- Staff were observed socially distancing and wearing personal protective equipment (PPE) in line with current guidance. Staff always wore PPE to minimise the risk of infection to people who were unable to socially distance.
- Systems were in place to ensure staff received up to date guidance and training to ensure those staff continued to meet government guidelines for safe infection control practices to reduce the risk of cross infection.
- When an outbreak did occur, plans were followed to minimise the risk of cross infection by using the same staff to support people who had tested positive. People were encouraged to self-isolate and where this presented challenges, additional cleaning of touch points in communal areas to mitigate the risk of cross infection took place.

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

Ashley House

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 the preparedness of care homes in relation to infection prevention and control.

This targeted inspection was to ensure that the service was compliant with infection control and prevention measures. 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 22 February 2022 and was announced.

Is the service safe?

Our findings

We have not changed the rating of this key question, as we have only looked at the part of the key question relating to staffing and the prevention and control of infection.

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 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'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.
- We were assured that the provider was making sure infection outbreaks can be effectively prevented or managed.
- We were somewhat assured that the provider was preventing visitors from catching and spreading infections.
- Management followed government guidance regarding visiting to the home. Arrangements were in place for people to keep in touch with relatives and friends. Guidance related to visiting was followed and relaxed as restrictions eased.

Care homes (Vaccinations as Condition of Deployment)

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.

We found one agency staff member who had recently worked at the service, yet the registered manager did not have sufficient evidence to show us, the staff member was vaccinated. Immediately following our visit, they sent us confirmation they were vaccinated. The registered manager agreed to review this with the agency without delay, to ensure they had the relevant records required.

- The Government has announced its intention to change the legal requirement for vaccination in care homes.