

Lingap Limited

# Oakwood House

## Inspection report

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Date of inspection visit:  
22 February 2022

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## Ratings

Overall rating for this service	Inspected but not rated
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Is the service safe?	<b>Inspected but not rated</b>
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# Summary of findings

## Overall summary

Oakwood House is a 'care home' which provides personal care and support for three younger adults with a learning disability or autistic spectrum disorder. The home is a converted, detached period home with a ground and first floor with stair access. Each person has their own bedroom with shared bathroom facilities. At the time of our inspection there were three people living in the home.

We found the following examples of good practice.

Safe arrangements were in place for all visitors to the home. These involved visitors to the home showing evidence of a negative rapid flow device (LFD) test and temperature checks. People were fully supported to maintaining contact with families and loved ones. The service was following the latest government guidance in relation to visiting.

The management team at Oakwood House clearly put the needs of the people living at the home first to help ensure care provided was focused on their individual needs. All decisions made, were done so with full consideration given to people's emotional and psychological wellbeing and in their best interests.

Due to the complex needs of the people living at the service it is difficult to ensure social distancing and isolation is maintained, as required. During the recent COVID-19 outbreak the service users were cohorted within their rooms and one of the communal areas which had been zoned as much as possible to people with or without COVID-19.

Staff had access to enough supplies of PPE including facemasks, gloves and aprons and PPE stations were accessible throughout the home.

Staff completed IPC training and were observed to be wearing the correct PPE and following best practice. The premises and equipment were visibly clean and regular cleaning schedules and audits were completed to monitor the IPC standards within the home.

A programme of routine testing was in place for all people using the service and staff.

There was an up to date infection prevention and control (IPC) policy. Staff were regularly updated with any changes to government guidance and procedures to follow so they could keep themselves, people and visitors 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**

# Oakwood 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.

We received information of concern about infection prevention and control measures and staffing arrangements at this service. This was a targeted inspection looking at the infection prevention and control measures 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 22 February 2022 and was unannounced. However, we gave short notice from outside the home due to the risks associated with COVID-19.

# 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.
- Following a recent COVID-19 outbreak in the service, lessons had been learned to ensure safe staffing levels of skilled staff were available to cover any staff shortfalls. This had resulted in the service starting the recruitment process to add an additional four staff members to the staff team.

### 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

- People were supported to see their loved ones in line with government guidance.
- The provider had safe processes in place to ensure visits for people living in the home were in accordance with the current government 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 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.