

Askham Village Community Limited

Askham House

Inspection report

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March
Cambridgeshire
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Date of inspection visit:
09 December 2020

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22 January 2021

Ratings

Overall rating for this service

Inspected but not rated

Is the service safe?

Inspected but not rated

Summary of findings

Overall summary

Askham House is one of five care homes on one site, on the outskirts of the village of Doddington. Askham House accommodates up to 29 people in one adapted building providing care to older people and people living with dementia. At the time of our inspection there were 26 people living in the service.

We found the following examples of good practice.

Procedures were in place to prevent the transmission of infection to and from friends and relatives. The registered manager had an outdoor 'visiting area' so that people could meet with their relatives. At the time of our inspection however, the service was only accepting essential visitors.

Staff wore full personal protective equipment (PPE), and had received training on how to wear and remove it safely.

Whole home testing was carried out for both people and staff.

Cleaning of the home, including frequently touched surfaces, had increased to reduce the risk of transmission of infection.

The registered manager was open and transparent and welcomed any suggestions of good practice. The day after we inspected, they confirmed they had introduced additional precautions in the home. For example, people who were COVID-19 positive had their cutlery and crockery placed into red bags after use. This ensured that staff in the kitchen could clearly identify and take extra precautions to reduce the spread of infection.

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

Askham 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 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 9 December 2020 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 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 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 that the provider was using PPE effectively and safely.
- We were somewhat assured that the provider was preventing visitors from catching and spreading infections. This is because, although the registered manager told us they had a policy in place which took visitors temperature and questions about their health, the inspector did not experience this during their visit.

We have also signposted the provider to resources to develop their approach.