

Charity of St Giles

St Giles Charity Estates

Inspection report

Nicholas Rothwell House
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Northamptonshire
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09 November 2020

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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

Nicholas Rothwell House provides support and personal care for up to 20 older people and offers both short and long term placements. There were 16 people living in the service on the day of the inspection visit. The building is purpose built with all rooms on the ground floor along with communal lounge and dining areas, and accessible outdoor gardens.

We found the following examples of good practice.

- The service prepared and used a specific corridor as an isolation zone for people who were new admissions to the service or returned from a hospital stay. Enhanced infection control procedures were in place, including a checklist each time a staff member entered the room, to ensure good practice was followed. This reduced the risk of infection spread in the event anyone developed symptoms of COVID-19.
- Everyone who arrived in the service was required to have a negative test for COVID-19 immediately prior to their admission. Additionally, there was a regular programme of COVID-19 testing in place for staff and people using the service. This meant swift action could be taken if anyone received a positive test result.
- Safe arrangements were in place for visitors to the service including health professionals and relatives. A perspex screen across open patio doors was used effectively so people could remain in the lounge and spend time with relatives who were outside. Plans were in progress for indoor visits as and when it became safe for these to take place.
- The service did not use any agency workers and permanent staff did not work in any other care setting. This reduced the risk of infection spread between care services. There was capacity within the staff team to take on extra hours to cover any vacant shifts which meant people received consistent care.
- Measures were in place to reduce the risk of cross infection within the staff team. Staff worked in small teams so if any staff member tested positive for COVID-19 they would have had contact with a limited number of colleagues who would also need to self-isolate. There was a dedicated area for staff to change into and out of their uniforms, and all staff uniforms were laundered on site.
- The contingency plan was a practical working document which was regularly updated when anything changed. This meant the service were well-placed to deal with any emergency as they had robust and well thought out back up plans in place.

Further information is in the detailed findings below.

The five questions we ask about services and what we found

We always ask the following five questions of services.

Is the service safe?

No ratings were awarded following this inspection. This was a thematic review seeking to identify examples of good practice in infection prevention and control.

Inspected but not rated

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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 coronavirus pandemic we are conducting a thematic review of infection control and prevention measures in care homes.

The service was selected to take part in this thematic review which is seeking to identify examples of good practice in infection prevention and control.

This inspection took place on 9 November 2020 and was announced.

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.