

# Accommodating Care (Southport) Limited

# Sandley Court Care Home

## Inspection report

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25 January 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

Sandley Court Residential Care Home is registered to provide personal care to older people, including those living with dementia. Care is provided to up to 23 people.

We identified prior to the inspection that no people living in the service had tested positive for COVID-19 in the last 14 days.

There had been some service users positively previously and one member of staff had recently tested positive as a result the service had made the decision no new admissions would be undertaken until advice from local infection prevent control team had agreed.

The provider followed relevant COVID-19 testing guidance. This included staff testing requirements as well guidance on testing for people using the service and visitors. Visitors unable to produce relevant vaccination status and COVID-19 testing are denied entry in a nonemergency situation until they provide the relevant assurance.

People were supported to minimise the impact on their wellbeing caused by changes to routine, choices, preferences and freedoms.

Disposal of used PPE prevents cross-contamination and followed relevant protocols, in particular single use items and how PPE is disposed of safely.

Routine testing scheme for all staff and people who receive support has been implemented. Staff are trained and know how to immediately instigate full infection control measures to care for a person who develops symptoms, who tests positive or who has been exposed to the virus to avoid the virus spreading to other people and staff.

## The five questions we ask about services and what we found

We always ask the following five questions of services.

### **Is the service safe?**

We were assured that this service met good infection prevention and control guidelines as a designated care setting.

**Inspected but not rated**

# Sandley Court Care Home

## **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 25 January 2022 and was announced. We gave the service 24 hours of notice of the inspection.

# 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. There was only one staff member currently isolating. Staff were paid when having to take time off because of a positive COVID-19 test.

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. All visitors must present a COVID pass and a confirmation of a negative test undertaken within 24 hrs on entry to the building. This is checked by staff and recorded on a survey when visitors sign in. The service had denied access to the building for people unable to provide the relevant information.
- We were assured that the provider was meeting shielding and social distancing rules. The provider had done all that they could rearranged communal areas to provide social distancing.. The manager had undertaken all measure that it could within the building to maintain social distancing.
- We were assured that the provider was admitting people safely to the service. There service had an admittance procedure, this included ensuring that a recent negative result for coronavirus had been recorded before admittance. They also made sure that they could verify people's immunisation history, At the time of the inspection there were no service users with a positive result. There had been people living in the service who had tested positive to maintain safety the provider had had made the decision to close to any further admittances. On the day after the inspection, a new positive test had been confirmed for a member of staff. The member of staff was isolating, the manager made arrangements to retest all staff and service users
- We were assured that the provider was using PPE effectively and safely. There was enough PPE available for staff and visitors. Staff were observed to correctly wear and use PPE.
- We were assured that the provider was accessing testing for people using the service and staff. Testing was in place for all staff when they commenced their shift. Testing practice was normally lateral flow test (LFT) three a week and a polymerase chain reaction (PCR) weekly. However due to a recent outbreak all staff were LFT tested daily.
- We were assured that the provider was promoting safety through the layout and hygiene practices of the premises. Staff were able to fully describe the actions they took, and the appearance of the service was clean and tidy. However, cleaning schedules were not completed at the weekend as there was no cleaning staff and high risk potentially contaminated areas such a touchpoint were not specifically outlined. The manager outlined the arrangement to address this.

- We were assured that the provider was making sure infection outbreaks can be effectively prevented or managed. The registered manager sought advice appropriately and followed external infection control advice when received. Appropriate arrangements were made as soon as anyone tested positive.
- We were assured that the provider's infection prevention and control policy was being updated. The policy did not reflect the practice and needed to be updated with some areas such as eye protection, bare below the elbow and cleaning arrangements.
- We were assured the provider was facilitating visits for people living in the home in accordance with the current guidance. All visitors were checked on entry that they were up to date with vaccinations and had tested negatively within last 24 hours. Logs were kept of any testing and monitored to make sure that the service would be able to plan and mitigate any risks.

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 service was meeting the requirement to ensure non-exempt staff and visiting professionals were vaccinated against COVID-19. Checks were in place and logs of staff vaccination status including boosters were recorded and monitored. Where staff had not yet received a booster vaccination the service encouraged them to undertake the latest vaccination.

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