

Golfhill Limited

Hill House Nursing Home

Inspection report

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06 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

Hill House Nursing Home is a 'care home' providing accommodation for persons who require nursing or personal care for up to 43 older people; some of whom lived with dementia. At the time of the inspection 35 people were living at the home.

We found the following examples of good practice.

Robust systems were in place to help manage the risks and prevent the spread of COVID-19.

Staff were facilitating visits for people living in the home in accordance with the current guidance. People did not raise any concerns with us about the visiting arrangements at the service.

There was a clear system in part for visitors to ensure they followed the current guidance on the use of personal protective equipment (PPE) and social distancing. Visitors to the service were asked to provide evidence of a negative COVID-19 test, wear PPE, have their temperature checked and wash their hands or use the hand sanitiser provided.

Staff checked to ensure non-exempt staff and visiting professionals were vaccinated against COVID-19.

Staff had received training in infection prevention and control and the use of PPE including masks, gloves, aprons and hand sanitiser. There were sufficient stocks available, and staff were seen to be wearing PPE appropriately.

People and staff took place in regular COVID-19 "whole home" testing. People and staff who tested positive followed national guidance and self-isolated for the required amount of time.

Staff helped people to socially distance by spacing out tables and chairs in communal areas.

Cleaning schedules and procedures had been enhanced to include more frequent cleaning of touch points such as handrails and light switches.

The management team had been open and transparent and worked closely with the Local Authority and infection prevention and control teams throughout COVID 19 outbreaks at the service.

All practice and procedures had been reviewed, updated and where necessary, changed in line with the latest guidance.

We were assured this service met good infection prevention and control guidelines.

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

Hill House Nursing 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.

We received information of concern about visiting 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 6 January 2022 and was unannounced.

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

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.
- We were assured the provider was facilitating visits for people living in the home in accordance with the current 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 service was meeting the requirement to ensure non-exempt staff and visiting professionals were vaccinated against COVID-19.