

Cumbria County Council

Applethwaite Green

Inspection report

Phoenix Way
Windermere
LA23 1BB

Tel: 01539462440

Date of inspection visit:
14 December 2020

Date of publication:
08 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

Applethwaite Green is a residential care home that provides personal care and accommodation for up to 27 people. At the time of our inspection there were 14 people living at the home. Accommodation is over two floors, with people living in units each with a communal lounge and kitchen/dining area. The ground floor unit provides care and accommodation for people who are living with dementia.

We found the following examples of good practice.

Staff had been trained in infection prevention and control and on safely using and disposing of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). The provider had ensured sufficient quantities of PPE were available. Staff had their practice observed to help ensure their competence.

The registered manager made sure clear information about maintaining social distancing and hand hygiene was highly visible on entry and throughout the home to guide staff and visitors. The registered manager had followed government guidance about visiting. Relatives had been supported to visit people safely and also stay in contact electronically and by telephone.

The registered manager followed best practice around safe admissions when people came into the home. The registered manager had arranged for regular COVID-19 testing for staff and people who lived in the home.

Staff were allocated to work in specific areas of the home using separate entrances and facilities to reduce the risk of transmission of infection. Risk assessments have been carried out on people using services and staff belonging to higher risk groups and actions have been taken to help reduce the risks.

The registered manager kept staffing arrangements under review and during the outbreak had been supported by agency staff specifically allocated to the service. The domestic staff team had increased to ensure deep cleaning took place and keep the home clean and hygienic. Cleaning records and audits on cleanliness and infection prevention showed frequently touched surfaces were cleaned regularly.

The registered manager had robust contingency plans and local authority guidance in place to help ensure the safety of the service during the pandemic.

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?

We were assured the service was following safe infection prevention and control procedures to keep people safe.

Inspected but not rated

Applethwaite Green

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 (IPC) 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 14 December 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.