

Barchester Healthcare Homes Limited

Briardene Care Home

Inspection report

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17 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

Briardene Care Home can accommodate up to 34 people across two purpose-built sites. The service provides care for people with complex needs associated with dementia. At the time of this inspection there were 33 people using the service.

We found the following examples of good practice.

Systems were in place to prevent people, staff and visitors from catching and spreading infections. Checks were made on visitors to the service including temperature, COVID-19 test results and vaccination status.

The home had an infection prevention and control lead who was responsible for sharing best practice with other staff.

The environment was clean and additional cleaning was taking place for surfaces that were touched frequently, such as handrails.

Staff wore PPE correctly throughout the home. There was clear signage on the correct use of PPE and handwashing techniques, and staff had received training in infection prevention and control.

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

Briardene 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.

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 17 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.
- The provider's visiting policy was not in line with government guidance at the time of our inspection. They had introduced stricter rules on visiting numbers and were also not allowing friends and relatives to visit unless they were fully vaccinated. In order to minimise impact on people there had been scope for some relaxation of the policy. At the time of writing this report the policy had changed and was now in line with government 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 Government has announced its intention to change the legal requirement for vaccination in care homes, but the service was meeting the current requirement to ensure non-exempt staff and visiting professionals were vaccinated against COVID-19.