

G Hudson & S Dobb

The Meadows Care Home

Inspection report

76 Mansfield Road
Alfreton
Derbyshire
DE55 7JL

Tel: 01773520491

Website: www.milfordcare.co.uk

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14 February 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

The Meadows Care Home provides personal and nursing care for up to 70 people. People are accommodated in two separate buildings. The service provides care for younger and older people, people living with dementia, and people living with physical disabilities and nursing care needs. Rose Court has 40 beds for people who need nursing care. Lavender Court has 30 beds for people who need residential care. At the time of our inspection, there were a total of 50 people living at the service.

We found the following examples of good practice.

The provider had ensured any new admissions were completed safely. They had developed a pre-assessment form which covered a comprehensive range of areas to provide staff with as much information about the person before they commenced their care in the home.

People were risk assessed regarding the testing and vaccinations, and best interest procedures were followed.

The provider had taken a proactive approach to increase the cleaning in the home. A sanitising system had been introduced monthly, along with an additional product to the laundry and hand sanitiser to add additional protection against COVID 19.

Staff had received training in infection and prevention, along with specific training on COVID 19. We saw this was completed on a six-monthly cycle to ensure staff were provided with refreshed information.

The provider reviewed their infection policy in conjunction with any changes to the government guidance. Staff were provided with information on any changes for example, testing requirements and the details of how it will be managed.

Visiting procedures were robust to reduce the risk of COVID-19. Relatives were kept informed through an electronic communication system on any changes to visiting guidance. During an outbreak, contact was maintained through facetime, email or telephone. Essential care givers were supported or visits which were risk assessed as necessary to meet people's needs.

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

The Meadows 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 infection prevention and control measures and staffing 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 14 February 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 was following the government guidance in relation to visitors. Technology was also used to enable contact through facetime or using the telephone to contact family and friend. The provider was reviewing the role of the essential care giver (ECG), to enable a more flexible approach to visiting for some relatives. The ECG will become part of the providers testing programme and are enabled to have access during an outbreak.

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.