

The English Dominican Congregation (Stone) Charitable Fund

St Martin's Centre

Inspection report

Stratford Lawn
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11 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

St Martins Care Centre is registered with CQC as a care home. People in care homes receive accommodation and nursing or personal care as single package under one contractual agreement. CQC regulates both the premises and the care provided, and both were looked at during this inspection.

The service provides residential and nursing care. The service can accommodate up to nine people aged 18 - 25 years of age with physical disabilities and associated learning disabilities. The People are not resident in the home full time and stay for short overnight breaks away from their main home. At the time of our inspection there were four people at the service.

We found the following examples of good practice.

- People's well-being had been considered throughout the pandemic. Staff kept regular contact with people who were shielding at home, and they produced a social media library with video stories for people to access. Staff also completed a music video and asked a local performer to record a message to raise students' spirits.
- People and staff were supported to stay safe throughout the pandemic. The management team offered practical and emotional support. One staff member said, "The support for well-being has been really good."
- Staff were wearing PPE effectively and safely. They had considered the impact of PPE on people and they had personalised their approach to ensure that they minimised any associated anxiety. One relative told us, "Staff are in their masks all the time. They are really careful and all very clued up."
- People had been supported by a stable and consistent staff team throughout the pandemic. A relative said, "The staff are really consistent which really suits my [relative]. [My relative] is really really happy."

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

St Martin's Centre

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 the COVID-19 pandemic we are looking at how services manage infection control and visiting arrangements. This was a targeted inspection looking at the infection prevention and control measures the provider had 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 11 February 2022 and was announced. We gave the service two days 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

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 somewhat assured that the provider was accessing testing for people using the service and staff. St Martin's Centre work towards two pieces of IPC guidance for social care and education. We have therefore signposted the provider to resources to develop their approach.
- 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.

As people were not resident in the home full time, they had frequent and ongoing contact with their families and visiting was therefore not routinely facilitated at the home. The registered manager told us that, if required, visiting could be organised 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.

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

