

Inspection Report

1 July 2021



Magherafelt Day Centre

Type of service: Day Care Setting
Address: 57 Hospital Road, Magherafelt, BT45 5EG,
Telephone number: 028 7936 5075

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Assurance, Challenge and Improvement in Health and Social Care

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1.0 Service information

Organisation/Registered Provider: Northern Health and Social Care Trust Responsible Individual: Mrs Jennifer Welsh	Registered Manager: Ms Donna O'Neill (Acting)
Person in charge at the time of inspection: Manager	Date manager registered: Not applicable
Brief description of the accommodation/how the service operates: Magherafelt Day Centre is a day care setting that is registered to provide care and day time activities for up to 30 older people over the age of 65, who may also be frail, have a physical disability, learning disability, sensory impairment, mental health need, and/or dementia. The day care setting is open Monday to Friday and is managed by the Northern Health and Social Care Trust (NHSCT).	

2.0 Inspection summary

An unannounced care inspection took place on 1 July 2021 between 10am and 3pm.

This inspection focused on the Northern Ireland Social Care Council (NISCC) registrations, adult safeguarding, notifications, complaints and whistleblowing, Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS), restrictive practice, dysphagia arrangements, monthly quality monitoring and Covid-19 guidance.

Service users said that they were very satisfied with the standard of care and support provided.

This inspection resulted in one area for improvement in relation to adult safeguarding training for ancillary staff.

Good practice was identified in relation to appropriate checks being undertaken before staff commenced employment in the day centre. Good practice was also found in relation to system in place of disseminating Covid-19 related information to staff. There were good governance and management oversight systems in place.

3.0 How we inspect

RQIA's inspections form part of our ongoing assessment of the quality of services. Our reports reflect how they were performing at the time of our inspection, highlighting both good practice and any areas for improvement. It is the responsibility of the service provider to ensure compliance with legislation, standards and best practice, and to address any deficits identified during our inspections.

Prior to inspection we reviewed the information held by RQIA about this day centre. This included the previous inspection report and Quality Improvement Plan (QIP) and written and verbal communication received since the previous care inspection.

The inspection focused on reviewing a range of relevant documents, policies and procedures relating to the day centre's governance and management arrangements. This included checking how care staffs' registrations with the NISCC were monitored.

We discussed any complaints and incidents during the inspection with the manager and we reviewed the quality monitoring processes to ensure that these areas were routinely monitored as part of the monthly checks in accordance with Regulation 28 of The Day Care Setting Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2007.

Information was provided to staff, service users and/or their relatives on how feedback could be provided to RQIA about the quality of services in the day centre. This included service user/relative questionnaires and a staff poster. Five service users' responses were received and the respondents were very satisfied that care was safe, effective, compassionate and well led. No staff responses were received within the timescale requested.

The findings of the inspection were provided to the manager at the conclusion of the inspection.

4.0 What people told us about the service

The information provided by service users during the inspection indicated that there were no concerns in relation to the day centre. All confirmed that they were very satisfied with the standard of care and support provided. The inspector spoke with three service users and three staff including the manager.

Service users' comments:

- "Great place to come and everything is good."
- "Staff are very kind to me and I am happy here."
- "I like playing bingo."
- "Staff always wear their masks."
- "Lovely place and lovely staff."
- "Staff help if I need it."

Staff comments:

- "I feel the care and support here is excellent."

- “Very good communication and we are always updated in regard to any changes.”
- “Good training; I’ve done my DoLS training and I am aware what a DoLS is and what restrictive practice is.”
- “Covid-19 folder in place; we get lots of information emailed to us from the NHSCT about Covid-19.”
- “There are no restrictions in place; we have all done DoLS training and are aware of service users’ rights and freedoms.”
- “We have no service users with dysphagia needs; a referral process is in place and staff are aware of same.”
- “I think we have worked hard to put all measures in place regarding Covid-19 to ensure a safe environment.”

5.0 The inspection

5.1 What has this service done to meet any areas for improvement identified at or since last inspection?

The last inspection of the service was undertaken on 29 August 2019 by a care inspector; two areas for improvement were identified. A QIP was issued. This was approved by the care inspector and was validated during this inspection.

5.1.2 Review of areas for improvement from the last care inspection dated 29 August 2019

Areas for improvement from the last care inspection		
Action required to ensure compliance with the Day Care Setting Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2007		Validation of compliance
Area for improvement 1 Ref: Regulation 14 (4) Stated: First time To be completed by: 14 October 2019	The registered person shall review the door locking mechanism on the identified door to ensure that it is the least restrictive mechanism for service users, visitors and staff to use to gain entrance to the identified area.	Met
	Action taken as confirmed during the inspection: The returned quality improvement plan and discussion with the manager confirmed that this area for improvement had been addressed. The manager and staff advised that the locking mechanism has been deactivated since the last care inspection. On the day of inspection the identified door was unlocked and service users were able to move freely around the day centre.	

Action required to ensure compliance with the Day Care Settings Minimum Standards, 2012		Validation of compliance
Area for improvement 1 Ref: Standard 6 Stated: First time To be completed by: 5 October 2019	The registered person shall ensure that the statement of purpose, service users guide and care documentation reflect that use of a restrictive practice (locking of doors)/ deprivation of liberty and that the service users, service users representatives and the multidisciplinary team have been consulted regarding the issue.	Met
	Action taken as confirmed during the inspection: The returned quality improvement plan and discussion with the manager confirmed that this area for improvement had been addressed. It was noted that the statement of purpose and service users guide had been updated to include deprivation of liberty.	

5.2 Inspection findings

5.2.1 Are there systems in place for identifying and addressing risks?

The day centre's provision for the welfare, care and protection of service users was reviewed. The organisation's policy and procedures reflected information contained within the Department of Health's (DoH) regional policy 'Adult Safeguarding Prevention and Protection in Partnership' July 2015 and clearly outlined the procedure for staff in reporting concerns. The organisation had an identified Adult Safeguarding Champion (ASC).

Discussions with the manager demonstrated that they were knowledgeable in matters relating to adult safeguarding, the role of the ASC and the process for reporting adult safeguarding concerns.

It was confirmed that care staff are required to complete adult safeguarding training during their induction programme and required updates thereafter. However, it was noted that ancillary staff such as transport and administrative staff had not received training with regards to adult safeguarding. Adult safeguarding training was identified as an area for improvement.

Staff indicated that they had a clear understanding of their responsibility in identifying and reporting any actual or suspected incidents of abuse. They could describe their role in relation to reporting poor practice and their understanding of the day centre's policy and procedure with regard to whistleblowing.

The day centre has a system for retaining a record of referrals made in relation to adult safeguarding matters. Records viewed and discussions with the manager indicated that no referrals had been made with regards to adult safeguarding since the last inspection. Adult safeguarding matters are reviewed as part of the quality monitoring process.

Service users who spoke to us stated that they had no concerns regarding their safety; they described how they could speak to staff if they had any concerns in relation to safety or the care being provided. The day centre has provided service users with information in relation to keeping themselves safe and the details of the process for reporting any concerns.

Service users and staff advised that there was enough staff to ensure the safety of the people who used the service. Observation of the delivery of care at the time of inspection evidenced that service users' needs were effectively met by the number of staff on duty.

There were systems in place to ensure that notifiable events were investigated and reported to RQIA or other relevant bodies appropriately. It was noted that no incidents had been reported since the last inspection.

Staff were provided with training appropriate to the requirements of their role. This included DoLS training. Staff had an understanding that people who lack capacity to make decisions about aspects of their care and treatment have rights as outlined in the Mental Capacity Act. The manager confirmed that no restrictive practices were used in the day centre.

There was a good system in place to share information relating to Covid-19 and infection prevention and control (IPC) practices. Staff were observed adhering to guidance and were knowledgeable about IPC during discussions.

The environment was observed during the inspection and there was evidence of infection prevention and control measures in place such as personal protective equipment (PPE) which was available for staff. Other infection prevention and control measures were in place, which included seven step hand hygiene notices positioned at wash hand basins, supplies of liquid soap and hand towels mounted on the wall and foot pedal operated bins. Wall mounted hand sanitisers were strategically located throughout the day centre. Wall mounted hand sanitisers checked were clean, sufficient product was available and these were well maintained and fit for purpose. There were numerous laminated posters displayed throughout the day centre to remind staff of good hand washing procedures and the correct method for donning and doffing PPE. Observations of the environment concluded that it was fresh smelling and clean throughout.

5.2.2 Are their robust systems in place for staff recruitment?

The review of the day centres staff recruitment records confirmed that recruitment was managed in accordance with the regulations and minimum standards, before staff members commence employment and direct engagement with service users. Records viewed evidenced that criminal record checks (Access NI) had been completed for staff.

A review of records confirmed all staff working in the day centre are currently registered with NISCC. Information regarding registration details and renewal dates was monitored by the manager; this system was reviewed and found to be in compliance with regulations and minimum standards. The manager confirmed that all staff are aware that they are not permitted to work if their professional registration lapses. Discussion with staff confirmed that they were registered with NISCC. Staff spoken with confirmed that they were aware of their responsibilities to keep their registrations up to date.

5.2.3 Are there robust governance processes in place?

There were monitoring arrangements in place in compliance with Regulation 28 of The Day Care Setting Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2007. Quality monitoring visits had been undertaken by a senior manager. A sample of reports viewed from March to May 2021 provided evidence that the monitoring process included engagement with service users, service users' representatives and staff, also that the conduct of the day centre was examined and that action plans for improvement were developed, if necessary.

There is a process for recording complaints in accordance with the day centre's policy and procedures. The manager confirmed that no complaints were received since the date of the last inspection. Discussion with staff confirmed that they knew how to receive and deal with complaints and ensure that the manager was made aware of any complaints.

The discussions with the manager and staff confirmed that no service users require assessment by the Speech and Language Therapist (SALT) in relation to dysphagia needs. There was evidence that day care staff previously had made referrals to the multi-disciplinary team and these interventions were proactive, timely and appropriate. It was positive to note that all staff had attended training in relation to dysphagia awareness.

There was a system in place to ensure that staff received supervision and appraisal in accordance with the day centres policies and procedures.

Staff described their role in relation to reporting poor practice and their understanding of the centre's policy and procedure on whistleblowing.

It was established during discussions with the manager that the day centre had not been involved in any Serious Adverse Incidents (SAIs)/Significant Event Analyses (SEAs) or Early Alerts (EAs).

6.0 Conclusion

Based on the inspection findings and discussions held with the manager, staff and service users, RQIA was satisfied that this service was providing safe and effective care in a caring and compassionate manner; and that the service was well led by the manager.

One area for improvement was made in relation to adult safeguarding training for ancillary staff.

The inspector would like to thank the manager, service users and staff for their support and co-operation throughout the inspection process.

7.0 Quality Improvement Plan/Areas for Improvement

An area for improvement identified during this inspection is detailed in the QIP. Details of the QIP were discussed with the manager, as part of the inspection process. The timescales commence from the date of inspection.

	Regulations	Standards
Total number of Areas for Improvement	0	1

Quality Improvement Plan	
Action required to ensure compliance with the Day Care Settings Minimum Standards, 2012	
Area for improvement 1 Ref: Standard 13.4 Stated: First time To be completed by: Immediate and ongoing from the date of inspection	<p>The registered person shall ensure that staff have completed training on and can demonstrate knowledge of adult safeguarding.</p> <p>This relates specifically to ancillary staff.</p> <p>Ref: 5.2.1</p> <p>Response by registered person detailing the actions taken: Two ancillary staff completed "Safeguarding Adults at Risk in Group Care" training on 26th July 2021, and the two remaining ancillary staff are booked on the same training on Friday 13th August 2021. Regular refresher training will be arranged for these staff, along with all care staff on an ongoing basis.</p>

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