

23 December 2020

Anglican Care Advice to Residents, Families & Friends – COVID-19 Update

Dear Residents, families and friends,

Further to my correspondence to you dated 20 and 21 December, I have a further update regarding visitation to our residential aged care homes as provided by NSW Health <https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/Infectious/covid-19/Pages/racf-latest-advice.aspx>

Visitation

From Thursday, 24 December until 11.59pm on Wednesday, 30 December, all of our residential aged care homes will be open seven days a week from 9.00am – 12.00noon and 1.00pm – 5.00pm. We will no longer be using the Picktime booking system for visitation as no bookings are required. Please note that there is a limit of 2 visitors per resident at Warnervale Gardens due to its inclusion in the Greater Sydney area.

We will continue to employ our Connecting Families Assistants during visitor opening times and they will screen visitors for the following requirements:

- COVID-19 screening and temperature taken on arrival
- Visitors are to remain in Residents rooms for the duration of the visit
- Masks must be worn and 1.5m physical distancing to be maintained at all times.

NSW Health has advised that if visits can be delayed and a later festive gathering organised this should be encouraged. If residents are leaving the facility over this period, a full risk assessment will be completed to determine if isolation is required for 14 days on return.

Other key points from the NSW Health advice are to:

- Exclude staff and visitors who:
 - have a fever (37.5°C or higher) or symptoms of COVID-19
 - have in the last 14 days been identified as a close contact of a COVID-19 case
 - have in the last 14 days been in any of the locations on the self-isolate and get tested immediately list, at the times and dates listed
 - On the monitor for symptoms list, at the times and dates listed except where noted otherwise on the webpage
 - have in the last 14 days been in a location of interest which can be found on NSW COVID-19 website <https://www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/latest-news-and-updates>

As we have experienced this week, we do need to be aware that visitation requirements could change or need to be revised again dependent on the COVID-19 situation within the community, i.e. if there is an increased number of cases within the community.

Zoom

With the removal of the Picktime booking system, for those people wanting to connect with a Resident via Zoom, please contact the home directly to discuss your requirements so that we can organise a team member to facilitate.

We remain mindful that all of our residential aged care homes must maintain vigilance to prevent the introduction of COVID-19. We thank our Anglican Care community for your ongoing patience and support as we navigate these changes in the week leading up to Christmas, which we know has proven particularly challenging for everyone involved.

We will continue to keep you updated with any changes as they occur. If you have any concerns or queries, please contact your Residential Care Manager or Kate McEwan (Infection Prevention Coordinator) via email katemcewan@anglicancare.com.au.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Cole'.

Janean Cole
General Manager Residential Care Services

