

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

Issued: 10 June 2021



As per advice provided by NSW Health dated 9 June 2021

<https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/Infectious/covid-19/Pages/racf-latest-advice.aspx>

Please note that any new information since our previous correspondence has been CAPITALISED for your easy reference.

## **THERE ARE close AND casual CONTACT LOCATIONS IN WESTERN NSW IN GILLENBAH, FORBES, DUBBO AND MOREE.**

Please Note: From 1 June to 30 September 2021 visitors are recommended not enter an aged care facility if they have not received a dose of the 2021 influenza vaccine, unless they meet the criteria under the exceptional and special circumstances. All visitors during this period, entering an aged care facility are recommended to provide evidence that they have received a dose of the 2021 influenza vaccination.

Please read [Exceptional circumstances for visiting an RACF.](#)

### **Masks:**

All staff and visitors to our facilities located in NSW are not required to wear a surgical mask. We do however recommend/encourage staff and visitors to wear a mask at any time where physical distancing of at least 1.5m cannot be maintained.

### **Until further notice the following visitors are restricted from accessing Residential Aged Care Homes in NSW:**

- have COVID-19 symptoms – including a fever (temperature of 37.5°C or higher)
  - Symptoms of COVID-19 include fever, cough, headache, fatigue, runny nose, sore throat, shortness of breath, and loss of taste or loss of smell. Other reported symptoms of COVID-19 include muscle pain, joint pain, diarrhoea, nausea/vomiting, loss of appetite and acute blocked nose congestion.
- any [close or casual contact locations](#) in NSW
- VICTORIAN [places of high concern](#), (these are the close and casual contact venues; visit the [Victorian Government Case alerts- public exposure sites](#) to navigate through the dates and venues)
- any [close or casual contact locations](#) Queensland
- have been in [Greater Melbourne](#)
- are a close contact of a person with confirmed COVID-19 and are within their self-isolation period.
- live in a household with a person who is currently self-isolating (including a person awaiting a COVID-19 test result).
- are waiting for a COVID-19 test result.

Please note: In exceptional circumstances, it may be possible for some types of exempt visitors to be allowed entry into one of the Residential Aged Care Homes on compassionate grounds (e.g. imminent death of a loved one), or for essential care purposes. This exemption will only be permitted by the General Manager Residential Care Services or delegate, via an approved risk assessment.

**Visitor Numbers and Visiting Times:**

- There are currently no restrictions on number of visitors or the time they can visit.
- Please note that Connecting Families Assistants will be available to facilitate the screening process during the times of 9am-12noon and 1pm-5pm. Outside of these times, there may be the possibility of a slight delay while a staff member becomes available to assist in the screening process.
- Visitors are asked to be mindful of physical distancing and adhere to the maximum number of people that resident and common rooms can accommodate.

**Outings:**

- Hunter, Central Coast and Mid Coast Residential Aged Care Homes - residents can leave the facility for outings such as medical appointments or to visit locations in the community such as shops and cafes.
- Ensure the event complies with the current movement and gathering public health order.
- For all outings and excursions attended by residents please ensure that there is no-one at the event meeting the criteria as listed in the visitor exclusions above.
- Please note resident or person responsible are required to complete a risk assessment form prior to leaving the residential aged care home. Could we ask that if possible for weekend outings, family advise the home on Friday if they would like to take their loved one out so that staff can complete the risk assessment in advance.  
Thank you.

**Concerns/Queries:**

In the first instance please contact your Residential Care Manager.

**. Issued By:**

Orla Tricky, Executive Director, Quality & Risk  
Anglican Diocese of Newcastle