

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

Issued: 29 June 2021



As per advice provided by NSW Health dated 29 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.

For our facility on the **Central Coast (WARNERVALE GARDENS)** the following applies;

- No visitors, except those providing essential caring functions.
- Ensure that all staff and essential care visitors wear a surgical mask.
- All essential visits must be in the resident's room.

For **all of our other facilities** the following applies;

- All staff and visitors must wear a surgical mask.
- Only two visitors should be allowed each day
- Visits should be in the resident's room OR ANOTHER SUITABLE LOCATION IN THE FACILITY AS DIRECTED BY THE FACILITY MANAGER
- No visitors are permitted from Greater Sydney (including the Blue Mountains, Central Coast, Wollongong and Shellharbour)

THERE ARE NEW close AND casual CONTACT LOCATIONS IN NSW.

CLOSE AND CASUAL CONTACT LOCATIONS INCLUDE;

Alexandria, Annandale, Auburn, Bankstown, Barangaroo, BELMORE, BEXLEY NORTH, BLAXLAND, Bondi, Bondi Beach, Bondi Junction, Bondi North, Burwood, Campbelltown, Carnes Hill, Castle Hill, Casula, Cecil Hills, Chipping Norton, Chullora, Coogee, CRYDON PARK, Darlinghurst, Denham Court, Double Bay, Drummoyne, EARLWOOD, East Sydney, EAST GARDENS, ELIZABETH BAY, Fairy Meadow, Gregory Hills, HAYMARKET, HILLDALE, Hurstville, Kensington, KINGSGROVE, Lakemba, Leichardt, MACQUARIE FIELDS, Manly, Maroubra, Marrickville, Mascot, Meadowbank, Merrylands, Moorebank, Narellan, North Ryde, North Sydney, Paddington, PAGEWOOD, Parramatta, Potts Point, Randwick, Redfern, RHODES, ROSE BAY, ROSEBERRY, Rouse Hill, RYDE, Shellharbour, Spring Farm, ST PETERS, Surry Hills, Sydney, SYDNEY OLYMPIC PARK, Tempe, ULTIMO, Vaucluse, WATERLOO, Wetherill Park, WOOLLAHRA, Zetland.

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 must wear a surgical mask.

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

- live or have been to Greater Sydney in the last 14 days unless providing essential caring functions
- 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.
- have been to any of the current locations of interest in New Zealand
- have been to any close or casual contact locations in NSW
- have been in Victorian places of high concern
- have been to any close or casual contact locations Queensland
- have been in Greater Melbourne
- HAVE BEEN TO ANY CLOSE AND CASUAL CONTACT LOCATIONS IN THE NORTHERN TERRITORY
- HAVE BEEN TO ANY close and casual contact locations IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA.
- 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:

FOR OUR FACILITY ON THE CENTRAL COAST (**WARNERVALE GARDENS**) THE FOLLOWING APPLIES;

- No visitors, except those providing essential caring functions
- all staff and essential care visitors wear a surgical mask.
- All essential visits must be in the residents room

FOR ALL OUR **OTHER** FACILITIES (EXCLUDING WARNERVALE GARDENS) THE FOLLOWING APPLIES;

- only two visitors should be allowed each day
- visits should be in the resident's room OR ANOTHER SUITABLE LOCATION IN THE FACILITY
- Visitors are asked to be mindful of physical distancing and adhere to the maximum number of people that resident and common rooms can accommodate.
- 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.

Outings:

Residents **FROM OUR CENTRAL COAST FACILITY (WARNERVALE GARDENS)** should avoid leaving the facility **except for essential reasons (eg medical appointments)**

RESIDENTS FROM OUR HUNTER AND MID COAST RESIDENTIAL AGED CARE HOMES –

- Residents can leave the facility for outings such as medical appointments or family visits. If they do so they should be encouraged to wear a mask.
- Residents **should not** enter Greater Sydney **except for essential reasons** and if so, they should **wear a mask**.
- RESIDENTS SHOULD **NOT ATTEND A GATHERING** WITH ANYONE PRESENT WHO HAS **BEEN IN THE GREATER SYDNEY AREA SINCE JUNE 21**
- 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