

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

Issued: 24 August 2021



As per advice provided by NSW Health dated 22 August 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.

ALL RESIDENTIAL AGED CARE HOMES ARE TO EXCLUDE ALL VISITORS, except those providing [essential caring functions](#) and end of life visits

- All essential care visitors must wear a surgical mask. For reasons when masks can be removed please see [Additional Advice](#)

All areas of NSW are under stay at home orders:

- **Greater Sydney (FROM 23RD AUGUST 2021, WARNERVALE GARDENS, (CENTRAL COAST LGA) IS NOT INCLUDED IN GREATER SYDNEY)**
- **Regional NSW**

There are new [close](#) and [casual](#) contact locations in Greater Sydney and also in regional NSW areas. To view locations please see [Latest COVID-19 case locations and alerts in NSW](#).

THERE ARE NOW ACTIVE CASES IN NEW ZEALAND WITH [contact tracing locations of interest](#).

Victoria, Queensland and the Australian Capital Territory - are considered affected areas and there are [close and casual contact places of high concern](#). To view locations please see [Latest COVID-19 case locations and alerts in NSW](#).

From 1 June to 30 September 2021 visitors should 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.

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

MASKS: All staff must wear a surgical mask.

Essential visitors must not enter a Residential Aged Care Homes if they;

- have been to any [close, casual or monitor for symptoms locations](#) in NSW in the last 14 days
- have been in New Zealand in the last 14 days
- have been to Victoria or the Australian Capital Territory since 5 August 2021 unless providing [essential caring functions](#) or for end of life visits.

- Have been to any close and casual contact places of high concern in Victorian, Queensland or the Australian Capital Territory.
- 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.
- 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.

Outings:

Residents from all our Aged care Homes should NOT leave the facility except for essential reasons (eg medical appointments)

Concerns/Queries:

In the first instance please contact your Residential Care Manager.

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