

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

Issued: 7th October 2021



As per advice provided by NSW Health dated 7 October 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.

FROM 11 OCTOBER 2021 TWO VISITORS PER DAY AGED 12 YEARS AND OVER WILL BE PERMITTED TO VISIT A RESIDENT IN AN AGED CARE FACILITY IF THEY ARE FULLY VACCINATED AND THEIR SECOND DOSE WAS RECEIVED AT LEAST 14 DAYS PRIOR TO THEIR VISIT. CHILDREN UNDER 12 ARE NOT BE PERMITTED TO ENTER AN AGED CARE FACILITY.

BY 31 OCTOBER 2021 ANY HEALTH PRACTITIONERS ATTENDING A RESIDENTIAL AGED CARE FACILITY UNDER ARRANGEMENT BY THE RESIDENT MUST HAVE AT LEAST 1 DOSE OF A COVID-19 VACCINATION.

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](#).

Visitors:

All facilities

- In stay at home areas [Warnervale Gardens, Greenmount Gardens, Scenic Lodge, Jesmond Grove, Kilpatrick Court, CA Brown Lodge and McIntosh Court], until 11 October, exclude all visitors, except those providing [essential caring functions](#) and end of life visits.
- Ensure that ensure that all visitors wear a surgical mask. For reasons when masks can be removed please see [Additional Advice](#).

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Providing Aged Care Services

Home Care - Residential Care - Retirement Living

Regions

Hunter - Central Coast - Mid Coast

ABN 94 273 103 460



Visits may be permitted in either the resident's room or an outside area but not in any inside communal areas.

TWO VISITORS PER DAY ARE ALLOWED IN RESIDENTIAL AGE CARE FACILITIES FOR AREAS NOT CURRENTLY UNDER STAY AT HOME ORDERS, PROVIDED THEY HAVE NOT BEEN TO ANY STAY AT HOME AREA IN THE LAST 14 DAYS. FROM 11 OCTOBER, ALL VISITORS AGED 12 YEARS AND OVER TO ALL AGED CARE FACILITIES MUST HAVE RECEIVED TWO DOSES OF A COVID-19 VACCINE AS LEAST 14 DAYS PRIOR TO THEIR VISIT UNLESS THEY CAN PROVIDE A COVID-19 MEDICAL CONTRAINDICATION CERTIFICATE OR THE VISIT IS FOR END OF LIFE. CHILDREN UNDER THE AGE OF 12 WILL NOT BE PERMITTED TO ENTER AN AGED CARE FACILITY.

Visitors must **NOT** enter if they;

- have been to any [close, casual or monitor for symptoms locations](#) in NSW OR [Victoria, Queensland, and the Australian Capital Territory](#) OR New Zealand in the last 14 days
- have been in a stay at home area in the last 14 days and are not an essential visitor
- 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 **CURRENTLY UNDER STAY AT HOME ORDERS**; [Warnervale Gardens, Greenmount Gardens, Scenic Lodge, Jesmond Grove, Kilpatrick Court, CA Brown Lodge and McIntosh Court]

Residents are permitted to leave the facility either by themselves or with a friend or relative to exercise (go for a walk) or for outdoor recreation provided they:

- remain within 5 km of the facility or within their LGA
- are vaccinated. Residents who are vaccinated can attend an outdoor gathering in a public space of up to 5 people for outdoor recreation so long as all those at the gathering aged 16 years or over are fully vaccinated
- wear a facemask or carry a medical certificate or other written evidence signed by a registered health practitioner or a statutory declaration by the person saying they have a physical or mental health illness or condition which prohibits them from wearing a facemask

Otherwise

- Residents should not leave the facility except for essential reasons (e.g. medical appointments).
- Facilities must ensure that residents are provided with appropriate PPE and infection control advice if they need to leave the facility for essential purposes.

Residents **NOT UNDER STAY AT HOME ORDERS**; [Mirrabooka Place, Storm Village, Bishop Tyrrell Place and Cedar Wharf Lodge]

- Residents are permitted to leave the facility and attend small family gatherings but must abide by the current [COVID-19 Safety - gathering and movement restrictions](#)
- Must not go into an area that is currently under a stay at home Order

Concerns/Queries:

In the first instance please contact your Residential Care Manager.

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