

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

Issued: 3rd November 2021



As per advice provided by NSW Health dated 30 October 2021

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

Including:

[Public Health \(COVID-19 Care Services\) Order \(No 2\) 2021 \(nsw.gov.au\)](#)

[Public Health \(COVID-19 General\) Order 2021 \(nsw.gov.au\)](#)

- **From 1 November** visitation restrictions will change to allow 2 fully vaccinated people aged 12 years and over plus 2 children aged under 12 to visit a resident in a 24-hour period.
- Fully vaccinated staff and visitors are not permitted to enter an aged care facility if they have returned from overseas in the last 7 days. They must have had a negative COVID-19 test taken on or after day 7 following their arrival. Any other person who has returned from overseas is not permitted to enter an aged care facility until 14 days have passed since their arrival.
- Residents may leave the facility but must abide by the [Public Health \(COVID-19 General\) Order 2021](#).
- Visitors aged 12 years and over must be fully vaccinated, or if under 12 years must abide by the rules below.

Visitors

Residents are permitted to have two fully vaccinated visitors aged 12 years and over plus two children aged under 12 years per day.

- Visitors aged 12 years and over must have received a second dose of a COVID vaccination at least 14 days prior to their visit.
- Children under 12 years are permitted to visit provided they are accompanied by a fully vaccinated person
- Where visits include a child under 12 it is strongly recommended, where possible:
 - the visit is in an outdoor area
 - the child should wear a mask
 - arrange Rapid Antigen Testing (RAT) prior to a visit

Visits should not be in any inside communal areas. All visitors must wear a surgical mask while visiting indoors. For reasons when masks can be removed please see [Additional Advice – Mandatory mask wearing](#).

Up to two unvaccinated people may visit a resident for an end of life visit. They must always wear a surgical mask and the visit must be solely inside the resident's room. The facility may require Rapid Antigen Testing (RAT) if available for visitors attending an end of life visit.

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Providing Aged Care Services
Home Care - Residential Care - Retirement Living

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Hunter - Central Coast - Mid Coast

ABN 94 273 103 460



Visitors must **NOT** enter if they;

- have [COVID-19 symptoms](#)
- are a close or casual contact of a person with confirmed COVID-19, unless they have completed their isolation and testing requirements.
- From 1 November 2021:
 - are a fully vaccinated person who has been overseas in the last 7 days. Additionally, they must show evidence of a negative COVID-19 test taken on or after day 7 following their arrival.
 - are any other person who has been overseas in the last 14 days.
- are waiting for a COVID-19 test result.

Anglican Care continues to monitor the rapidly changing Public Health Orders and advice issued by NSW Health to ensure that we satisfy all requirements in order to protect our residents from the potential for COVID-19 infection. We understand the distress that these restrictions place on the people we support and are always looking for ways to facilitate contact which satisfies the requirements and welcome suggestions from families on additional options. Please contact your Residential Care Manager to discuss available options for remaining connected with our residents, giving consideration to your specific circumstances and needs.

Outings:

Residents are permitted to leave the facility and attend family gatherings or for other reasons but must abide by the current [Public Health \(COVID-19 General\) Order 2021 \(the Order\)](#).

Facilities must ensure that residents are provided with appropriate personal protective equipment and infection control advice if they leave the facility. If a person cannot wear a face mask because of a disability, physical or mental health illness or condition, they must carry either;

- a medical certificate or letter signed by a registered health practitioner (such as a doctor) or a registered NDIS provider or
- a statutory declaration.

For residents leaving the facility for an individual outing, family gathering or group excursion, ensure that:

- residents are guided about COVID-safe behaviours, including practicing physical distancing (1.5m) and hand hygiene,
- the event complies with the current Public Health (COVID-19 General) Order 2021
- no one at the event:
 - has been a close contact of a person with confirmed COVID-19 in the last 14 days
 - lives in a household with a person who is currently self-isolating
 - is waiting for a COVID-19 test result.

Concerns/Queries:

In the first instance please contact your Residential Care Manager.

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