

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

Issued: 8th November 2021



As per advice provided by NSW Health dated 6th November 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 \(nsw.gov.au\)](#)

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.](#)
- People who are providing a service to the resident (including a health or other professional service) are not counted in the number of visitors permitted.

The Minister has signed an exemption to the [Public Health \(COVID-19 Care Services\) Order 2021](#) to allow more than 2 visitors per day for the purposes of visiting a resident who is at the end of life.

- The exemption is subject to the condition that the operator of the facility takes reasonable steps to ensure:
 - no more than 4 people (including children) visit at any one time
 - all visitors 12 years and over wear a mask while in an indoor area, unless the visitor is interacting with the resident they are visiting
 - there is minimal interaction between the visitors and the staff and other residents

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Providing Aged Care Services

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Regions

Hunter - Central Coast - Mid Coast

ABN 94 273 103 460



- The visitors in this circumstance do not need to be vaccinated, however appropriate care must be taken if unvaccinated visitors are entering the facility. It is strongly recommended:
 - the visit is solely inside the resident's room and
 - where possible, the visitors have Rapid Antigen Testing (RAT) just before the visit.

Visitors must not enter an RACF at all if they:

- have COVID-19 symptoms
Symptoms of COVID-19 include:
 - fever (37.5 ° or higher)
 - cough
 - sore throat
 - shortness of breath (difficulty breathing)
 - runny nose
 - loss of taste
 - loss of smell.
 - Other reported symptoms of COVID-19 include fatigue, acute blocked nose (congestion), muscle pain, joint pain, headache, diarrhoea, nausea, vomiting and loss of appetite.
 - Unexplained chest pain and conjunctivitis have also been reported as symptoms of COVID-19.
- are a close or casual contact of a person with confirmed COVID-19 unless they have completed their self-isolation and testing requirements.
- are waiting for a COVID-19 test result.
- have been overseas in the previous 14 days, unless they are:
 - fully vaccinated and have received a negative test 7 days or later after arrival in NSW
 - a fully vaccinated international flight crew member and have a negative PCR test within 24 hours of arrival in NSW or a negative RAT taken on the same day prior to entry.

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](#).

Facilities must ensure that residents are provided with appropriate personal protective equipment, infection control and mask wearing advice if they leave the facility. See the latest [face mask rules](#).

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