

# CORONAVIRUS INFORMATION FOR RESIDENTS AND FAMILIES

Friday, 17<sup>th</sup> July, 2020

As some of you may be aware the New South Wales government Chief Health Officer released a new health care directive yesterday 15<sup>th</sup> July. It is in addition to the existing Public Health order that came in to force on the 23<sup>rd</sup> June. This document provides guidelines related to aged care facilities.

The organizations Clinical Quality and Risk Committee has reviewed the recommendations, and the changes adopted, and that effective as of today the following measures will apply:

Entry will be denied to anyone who;

- during the 14 days immediately before the proposed entry, the person arrived in Australia from a place outside Australia, or
- during the 14 days immediately before the proposed entry, the person had known contact with a person who has a confirmed case of COVID-19, or
- has been in the State of Victoria in the last two weeks
- anyone who has fever or respiratory symptoms
- no visitors who have been in the following local government areas of Liverpool, Campbelltown, Camden, Wingecarribee and Wollondilly can be admitted

Additionally, the previous restrictions related to visitors as below continue to apply. The two items in bold have been amended given the elevated risk of community transmission now being identified in the community.

- **All visits may be conducted in the resident's room.**
- **No more than 2 visitors should visit a resident per day.**
- Visitors may attend the facility including weekends as per normal visiting arrangements, between the hours of 9am and 6pm. No appointments need to be made to visit.
- All visitors shall report to the reception to have their temperature and health checked.
- All visitors shall enter through the main entrance as the access cards for family members remain deactivated.
- All visits are to be of 2 hours duration or less.

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- All visitors shall comply with their hand hygiene obligations, wearing a mask and comply with the 1.5-metre social distancing while visiting. The single-use mask will be provided at reception and disposed in a safe bin at the reception.
- All visitors must comply with the vaccination requirement to enter into an aged care facility as outlined by the Department of Health. This also applies to children 16 years and under who are now permitted to visit.
- Pets are allowed to visit, but must be on a leash at all times.

As part of this directive any of our staff who live in the local government areas of Liverpool, Campbelltown, Camden, Wingecarribee and Wollondilly are required to wear masks while in aged care until at least the end of July. The risk to the community and our residents has escalated over the last few weeks and may continue to do so.

All activity is required to meet the requirements for social distancing. That is, one person per four square metres. This is a public health requirement and is mandatory. Staff will be monitoring our compliance with this obligation. Thank you again to our staff, residents and families. This has been challenging and educative for us all. If we continue to manage the challenges as we have together, we are hopeful that our aged care lives will return to normal.

Kind Regards,



Alasdair Croydon

**Chief Operating Officer**

