

Guidelines for visiting safely

COVID-19: Visits at all Uniting AgeWell aged care residences in Tasmania

Update – Effective 15 December 2021

These guidelines take into account the national Industry Code for Visiting Residential Aged Care Homes during COVID-19, Tasmania's Public Health Directions (Residential Aged Care Facilities - No. 17) as well as Uniting AgeWell's rights, responsibilities and duty of care as an aged care provider.

Visitor screening criteria

You will not be permitted to enter the residential care home if:

- You cannot provide evidence of your fully vaccinated for COVID-19 certificate
OR
if unvaccinated, evidence of a negative COVID-19 test result from a test undertaken within 72 hours of your visit, noting this requirement also applies to children from one month of age. No exemptions apply to this requirement, other than for end-of-life care;
- You are undertaking mandatory 14-day self-isolation after returning from overseas;
- You have been in an area identified as medium or high risk for COVID-19 in the previous 14 days;
- You have been in contact with a confirmed or suspected case of COVID-19;
- You have been diagnosed with COVID-19 in the last 14 days;
- You are unwell for any reason, including mild cold and flu symptoms.

Visiting guidelines and precautions

- Visiting hours are available each day without the need for pre-booking.
- Visitor Coordinators will conduct visitor screening between 10am and 6pm, seven days per week. Doors will be locked outside of these hours to ensure all visitors can be appropriately screened.
- While it is preferred that visitors arrange their visit between 10am and 6pm, we will continue to offer flexibility where needed.
- You must ensure you complete and sign the declaration form stating that you do not present a risk as per the entry criteria outlined above, as well as the QR code scan and visitor log located at the front entrance.
- If you do not meet the entry criteria you will not be permitted to enter. This screening and declaration process will occur each time you visit.
- Surgical facemasks (not cloth masks) must be worn at all times, including by children under 12 years of age where practicable. Masks must cover the nose and mouth and may only be removed to drink or eat.
- Sanitise your hands upon entry for screening, prior to entering the resident's room and again on exit.
- You must maintain a social distance of 1.5 metres at all times from the resident you are visiting, staff and other residents. For hygiene and infection control reasons, we request that you do not touch any items in the resident's room.

- Visits can occur in a resident's room, outdoors, or in the event of an activity, in a communal area if room density requirements can be met and all people maintain social distancing of 1.5m.
- The entry and exit time of all visitors is to be recorded; visitors must complete the visitor log.

Please note that visitor access may change if an outbreak occurs within the facility or a declared outbreak has occurred within the local area or if there are other extraordinary circumstances that require it.

Uniting AgeWell's primary concern is always the health and wellbeing of all residents and staff and in maintaining a safe living and work environment for all.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Andrew Kinnersly
Chief Executive Officer
Uniting AgeWell