

Visitor restrictions lifted for residential aged care facilities in Victoria

After a difficult few weeks for residents and families, I am delighted to advise that in line with the further easing of restrictions in Victoria, which come into effect at 11.59pm this evening, visitors will be able to return to residential aged care facilities from tomorrow, Friday, 25 June. This is very welcome news for us all.

The new State Government directives allow for two visitors at a time, with a maximum number of five visitors per day for any resident. There is no daily visitor limit for end-of-life situations.

Resident social outings can also resume, noting residents are subject to the same health advice and requirements as other Victorians.

While we are very pleased to welcome back visitors, it is extremely important that all visitors follow Uniting AgeWell's safe visiting protocols and the advice of staff.

Visiting guidelines and precautions

- You must ensure you complete and sign the declaration form stating that you do not present a COVID-19 risk, 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.
- Facemasks must be worn indoors at all times, and outside if social distancing cannot be maintained.
- Please 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.
- 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 in the event there is an escalation of community transmission of COVID-19.

Again, I take this opportunity to thank you for your patience, understanding and vigilance as we work together to maintain the health and wellbeing of all residents in our care and I encourage everyone who has not already done so, to get vaccinated for COVID-19 as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely

Andrew Kinnersly Chief Executive Officer