



9th July 2021

Dear Residents and Relatives,

COVID-19 Update #36

The [latest updates](#) from NSW government:

- New South Wales premier, Gladys Berejiklian, has announced on 7th July 2021 that the lockdown ([Stay-at-home Order](#)) for all of greater [Sydney](#), the Blue Mountains, the Central Coast and Wollongong will be extended until midnight on Friday 16th July 2021.
- There are new [close](#) and [casual](#) contact locations in Greater Sydney.
- Fairfield, Liverpool and Canterbury-Bankstown LGAs have been identified as the new “focus” for health officials to urge for residents to increase alertness and stay home or limit movement. In particular 8 suburbs were names: Bossley Park, Smithfield, Fairfield, West Hoxton, Bass Hill, St Johns Park, Canley Vale and Greenfield Park.

What does this announcement mean to ANHF residential aged care facilities?

- While the Stay-at-home order is in place, entry to residential aged care facilities must be for essential care purposes only.
- All people **must not enter** the facility at all if they
 - have been directed not to do so under current [Stay-at-Home order](#);
 - have been to any [close, casual or monitor for symptoms locations](#) in NSW in the last 14 days;
 - live or have been to Greater Sydney in the last 14 days unless providing [essential caring functions](#) or end of life visits;
 - have been to any [close and casual contact places of high concern](#) in Victoria, Queensland, Western Australia or the Northern Territory;
 - have [COVID-19 symptoms](#) - fever (37. 5°C or higher) or symptoms of COVID-19
 - are a close contact of a person with confirmed COVID-19 and are within their self-isolation period;
 - live in a household with a person who is currently self-isolating;
 - are waiting for a COVID-19 test result.
- From 1 June to 30 September 2021, all visitors and staff entering a residential aged care facility are required to provide evidence that they received a dose of the 2021 influenza vaccine, unless they are in [exceptional circumstances](#).
- All visits to residential aged care facilities must follow the [Additional public health advice for residential aged care facilities \(RACF\)](#). Wearing of masks is compulsory in residential aged care facility.

Leaving the facility

- Residents are requested to delay community outings and excursions while NSW's Staying-at-home order in place.
- Residents who must leave the facility (e.g. medical appointment in the community) should ensure that:
 - there is no other alternative for the appointment to be postponed or attended remotely, e.g. via telehealth; and
 - the event complies with the current Public Health Gathering Restriction Order 2021. Please also read [Additional information for visits and outings at a residential aged care facility \(RACF\)](#).
- Residents and the persons responsible for taking the resident out are reminded that they should ensure COVID Safe behaviours must be observed including practicing physical distancing (1.5m) and hand hygiene in place with high people density. They are responsible to record and disclose when required by the government the locations they have visited.
- Face masks will be provided for residents going out who may consider to wear them in crowded areas.
- Residents may be required to be isolated and receive COVID-19 test on returning to the facility.

To be vigilant in preventing COVID-19, we have implemented the followings:

- Booking system is used to manage the number of the [exempted](#) visitors on site when the visits are taking place in a shared use meeting place/room. Visits in this situation will be restricted to the agreed number of visitors and duration.
- Temperature check, symptom and travel history screenings will occur at entry.
- Hand hygiene will be facilitated. Social distancing at all times.
- **QR Code will be used at all ANHF workplaces. Please note that this is a new mandatory requirement by NSW Health for all workplaces to assist speedy contact tracing. We ask for your cooperation to register your entry and exit time of the location using the QR Code. The data will be collected by Service NSW for the Health authority to trace and contact you should there be a concern on potential contact with a confirmed case.**
- Our facility will continue to obtain name and contact detail of visitors, including the time in and out of the facility for fire emergency and evacuation management.
- Single site work arrangement currently in place since 26th June 2021 per Department of Health's directive (so that residential care workers do not also work in another residential care facility in the current [hot spots areas](#)).

We appreciate your understanding that we may have to proceed swiftly in response to the COVID-19 situation. We will use other means such as telephone call or SMS to contact you, in addition to email at times of urgency.

Please do not hesitate to contact our Facility Managers or their delegates if you have any questions.

Yours sincerely



Jenny Chua
General Manager, Care Services