

Guidelines for visiting safely

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

Effective 26 September 2022

We ask that you follow these Safe Visiting Guidelines to help us protect those in our care and our staff.

Visitor screening criteria

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

- have symptoms of COVID-19
- have had a COVID-19 PCR test and are waiting for the result
- are required to isolate or quarantine
- have had contact with a COVID-19 positive person in the past 7 days or deemed a close contact and have not returned a negative COVID-19 RAT or PCR test
- have recorded a positive COVID-19 Rapid Antigen Test (RAT) prior to entry

Visiting guidelines and precautions

- Preferred visiting hours are from 10am to 4pm each day, noting there is flexibility for visiting outside these timeframes.
- All visitors will be required to undertake a COVID-19 rapid antigen test (RAT) prior to entering the facility, noting it is strongly recommended visitors undertake the RAT before they attend the facility.
- Evidence of a negative PCR test result within 24 hours prior to visiting a care facility can substitute for the need for a RAT.
- All visitors will be required to complete a visitor declaration, including evidence of a negative RAT or PCR test; declare their vaccination status; and sign the visitor log on entry and exit.
- 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 (surgical type) must be worn at all times and cover the nose and mouth.
- 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.
- Visitors should go directly to the resident's room or outdoor spaces. Visits should not take place in common areas unless social distancing can be maintained and please do not visit other residents, unless permitted to do so.
- Please follow and respect the guidance of staff and any instructions given to ensure a safe visit.
- DO NOT VISIT if you are feeling unwell for any reason.

Please note: where a facility is in outbreak lockdown, only one nominated visitor will be permitted.

These guidelines are subject to change based on a daily risk assessment that seeks to balance the health, safety and wellbeing of both residents and staff and the level of community transmission.

Fonda Voukelatos
Acting Chief Executive Officer – Uniting AgeWell