



23 December 2020

Our Residents and Representatives
Regional NSW
The Salvation Army Aged Care

RE: UPDATED DIRECTIVES FROM NSW HEALTH

Dear All,

On 23 December 2020, NSW Health released updated directives for residential aged care centres in New South Wales. Based on these directives, we will be moving your centre to Risk Level 3 on our internal Risk Assessment Matrix effective 24 December 2020. Please note that the previous directives to lockdown aged care centres in New South Wales apply until 11:59pm on 23 December 2020.

According to the new directives and as extracted from them, the following will apply from midnight tonight until at least 11:59pm 30 December 2020:

- Until further notice all staff and visitors must wear a surgical mask whilst in a residential aged care facility;
- Until at least 11.59pm on Wednesday 30 December 2020 all residential aged care facilities in the [Northern Beaches LGA](#) must exclude visitors, except those performing essential caring functions;
- Until at least 11.59pm on Wednesday 30 December 2020 up to two visitors are permitted to visit residents in residential aged care facilities in [Greater Sydney](#) (including local Government areas of Central Coast and Wollongong). Visitors from the [Northern Beaches LGA](#) are excluded;
- Until at least 11.59pm on Wednesday 30 December 2020 up to two visitors from [Greater Sydney](#) excluding [Northern Beaches LGA](#) are permitted to visit residents. in residential aged care facilities in regional NSW. There are no restrictions on people from regional NSW visiting residents in regional facilities.

Exclude staff and visitors who:

- Have been in any of the locations:
 - On the [self-isolate and get tested immediately](#) list, at the times and dates listed;
 - On the [monitor for symptoms](#) list, at the times and dates listed except where noted otherwise on the web page;
 - Have a fever (37. 5°C or higher) or symptoms of COVID-19 (acute blocked nose congestion has been added to the list of symptoms);
 - 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 identified as a close contact of a person with confirmed COVID-19.



Please also:

- Regularly visit the [NSW COVID-19 website](#) on areas of active community transmission.

In addition, the following will apply to residents in Greater Sydney who wish to leave the centre:

- Until at least 11.59pm on Wednesday 30 December 2020, residents from residential aged care facilities in [Greater Sydney](#) should not leave the facility to attend family gatherings and group excursions unless the visit is essential (such as a medical appointment).
- If a resident makes a decision to leave the facility to attend a family gathering or excursion, it is appropriate from a risk perspective for the facility to advise a resident that they may be required to go into 14-day self-isolation upon return.

We thank you for your patience and understanding as we continue to navigate the situation as it relates to COVID-19 in New South Wales and we will continue to keep you up-to-date as the directives change over the holiday period.

If you have any questions, please get in touch with your Centre Manager.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Sjukes'.

Samantha Jukes

General Manager – Residential Services
The Salvation Army Aged Care