



17 July 2020

Our Residents and Representatives
The Salvation Army Aged Care

Dear All,

There has been an update to the Public Health Direction in Queensland as it relates to facilitating contact between residents and non-residents of residential aged care centres and we would like to make you aware of it based on the following information as extracted from Aged Care Direction No.7. The measures below will be implemented at your centre on 17 July 2020.

Visitors

5. **Care and support visits**, other than an **end of life visit**, are limited to a maximum of two visitors at a time per resident.
6. For end of life visits, more than two visitors may visit a resident at one time.
7. A person must not enter, or remain on, the premises of a residential aged care facility in the State of Queensland from the time of publication of this direction until the end of the declared public health emergency if:
 - a. during the 14 days immediately preceding the entry, the person arrived in Australia from a place outside Australia; or
 - b. during the 14 days immediately preceding the entry, the person has been in a [COVID-19 hotspot](#); or
 - c. during the 14 days immediately preceding the entry, the person had known contact with a person who has a confirmed case of COVID-19; or
 - d. the person has a temperature equal to or higher than 37.5 degrees or symptoms of acute respiratory infection; or
 - e. the person does not have an up to date vaccination against influenza, if the vaccination is available to the person.

Example – the vaccination is not available to a person with a medical contraindication to the influenza vaccine

8. The **operator of a residential aged care facility** in the State of Queensland must take all reasonable steps to ensure that a person does not enter or remain on the premises of the residential aged care facility if the person is prohibited from doing so under paragraph 7.
9. Despite paragraph 7(e), a person (other than a person whose presence at the premises is for the purposes of providing health, medical, personal care, or pharmaceutical services to a resident of the residential aged care facility), may enter and remain on the premises for the period reasonably required to provide an emergency service that is necessary for the effective operation of the residential aged care facility or to protect the health and safety of staff and residents on the condition that the person must practise social distancing wherever possible, including maintaining a distance of at least 1.5 metres.



Example – A plumber may make emergency repairs if an employee or contractor with an up to date vaccination against influenza is unable to attend.

Note – An ambulance officer, nurse, doctor or other health care worker is not permitted to enter premises under this paragraph and must have an up to date influenza vaccination due to the health risks posed by close contact with aged care residents if the vaccination is available to the person.

10. Despite paragraph 8, the operator of a residential aged care facility may allow a person to enter and remain on the premises in accordance with paragraph 9.
11. Nothing in paragraph 7 is to be taken to prevent a resident of a residential aged care facility from entering or remaining upon the premises of the residential aged care facility.

Residents

12. The operator of a residential aged care facility in the State of Queensland may permit a resident to leave the facility, including to receive end of life or palliative care, receive or access health care, attend small family gatherings, undertake exercise, or attend a funeral, subject to paragraph 13.

Note – residents who form part of a familial group (for example, couples, siblings) or close friends should be permitted to leave the facility together.

13. The operator of a residential aged care facility in the State of Queensland must not permit residents to leave the facility for external excursions with a group of residents.

Example – a group of residents being taken on a day trip to the beach.

Should you have any questions, please speak to your Centre Manager.

Kind regards,

Samantha Feddema
General Manager – Residential Services
The Salvation Army Aged Care