



Enhanced COVIDSafe Summer

Residential Aged Care Facilities – 18 February 2021

From 11:59pm 17 February 2021 Victoria returns to COVIDSafe Summer restrictions – with some revised conditions.

These settings are designed to balance allowing Victorians to get back to doing the things they love while also putting in place measures to protect all that Victorians have worked so hard for.

If you have symptoms, however mild, please get tested. If you have been to any [current exposure sites](#) in Victoria, get tested and stay isolated for 14 days.

For testing locations, visit the [Where to get tested page](#)

Worker and visitor declarations

Staff¹ and visitors to RACFs are required to **declare in writing** at the start of each shift or visit that they:

- do not have any COVID-19 symptoms
- are not a close contact of someone who has COVID-19
- are not currently required to isolate or quarantine **This includes if they have attended an [exposure site](#)**

In addition to the written declaration, all staff and visitors must be checked for symptoms, including checking for a temperature of over 37.5 degrees Celsius.

Declarations can be on paper or through an app or equivalent providing it is in writing. A parent or guardian can make a declaration for their child.

Record keeping requirements

All RACFs are required to retain records, such as staff mobility, visitor attendance and declarations.

This both demonstrates compliance with directions and aids in contact tracing.

A person must not enter a RACF if they:

- are not wearing a fitted face mask (unless an exception applies). A face shield on its own does not meet the mask requirement.
- are unwell or have even the mildest symptoms of COVID-19:
 - fever or temperature over 37.5 degrees
 - loss or change in sense of smell or taste, chills or sweats, cough, sore throat, shortness of breath, and/or runny nose
- are required to quarantine or isolate ****This includes if they have attended an [exposure site](#)****
<<https://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/case-locations-and-outbreaks-covid-19>>
- have arrived in Australia from overseas (other than a travel green zone) in the last 14 days.
- **have been at a hotel quarantine site or port of entry in the last 14 days.**

Changes to visitor restrictions

VISITING HOURS AT HAVILAH REMAIN BETWEEN THE HOURS OF 10 A.M. AND 4 P.M. EACH DAY As our staff need to be in place to check you out from your visit. We appreciate that if possible your visit is completed by 4 pm.

Special arrangements can be made for palliative care and on other compassionate grounds.

Density limits apply in common areas used by staff, visitors and residents. Density limits do not apply in resident bedrooms or in communal areas that are used by residents only.

In dual staff/visitor/resident areas, the number of people that can enter must comply with density limits. This means, one person per 2 square metres.

Unless by prior arrangement, visitors can only visit within the resident's own room and we ask that visitors restrict their visits to two people at the one time. When added to the resident and staff this can be quite a number of people in the room at any one time. **Visitors wishing to have a greater number of people visit, please telephone pre the visit so that special arrangements can be made for this to happen.**

Visitors must visit only the one resident at the one time. Therefore visitors must not go directly from one resident room to another. Where a visitor is necessarily the same person who visits another resident separate sign in must be completed for each visit to a separate room.

Use of a communal space can only occur in accordance with our COVID safe plan. This might include recording where groups gathered/sat in the space; regular cleaning between groups; hand sanitiser at the entrance to the space; and separate entrance and exit. Under current restrictions it is possible to organize a small family gathering for special events such as birthdays. Please talk to reception if you are interested in doing this. Keep in mind that conditions are constantly changing but we will certainly do the best we can to accommodate requests.

Visits to aged care are permitted in the following circumstances:

- One household (up to 5 people) may visit a resident once per day for a maximum of one hour for any reason.
- **Support visits:** person provides emotional, cultural, spiritual or social support. **Limit: one visitor, once per day for one hour.**
- Density limits ([2 square metre rule](#)) also apply to communal spaces that visitors access, but not to resident's own rooms.
- **essential care** necessary for the resident's wellbeing, including includes mental health support, or assistance with daily activities like eating meals, and must be to optimise the care and support delivered by workers at the facility.

Limit: one visitor at any one time (no time limit).

- **behavioural support** to manage individual behaviours of concern, such as for people living with dementia, cognitive impairment or cognitive disability, or who have a known or emerging serious mental illness. **Limit: one visitor at any one time.**
- **Interpreters** or informal language support to enable the delivery of care by workers at the facility. **Limit: one visitor at any time.**
- **End of life** support where the death of a resident is expected within days (periods up to 14 days) or where the resident is at risk of dying from a sudden acute event. **Limit: two visitors at any one time.**
- **Family** (including kindship) of a resident who is a minor. **Limit: one person at any time.**

Residents leaving RACFs

Residents can leave their care facility for any reason, provided they comply with current restrictions in Victoria.

When residents leave the facility, they should be reminded of the current restrictions, including:

- wearing a fitted face mask indoors¹, and when you cannot maintain 1.5m distance outdoors. This means carrying a mask with you at all times.
- physical distancing (staying 1.5m from others)
- limits on private and public gatherings
- not seeing people who are quarantining, isolating or otherwise unwell.

¹ Residents are not required to wear face masks inside the RACF itself, this rule applies when indoors after leaving the RACF.

Visitor and Resident Support

Older Persons Advocacy Network (OPAN) have trained advocates who can provide advice and support. 1800 700 600 or visit <https://opan.com.au>.

Exposure sites <www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/case-locations-and-outbreaks-covid-19>