

## From 11:59pm 26 February 2021 Victoria returns to COVIDSafe Summer restrictions

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

Staff<sup>1</sup> 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 aides 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

**There are now no limits on the number, reason or duration of visits.**

**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.

### **Residents leaving RACFs**

Under current restriction levels, residents in Victoria can leave their care facility for any reason, provided they comply with current restrictions applicable to all Victorians.

When residents leave the facility, they must comply with the general directions, including:

- Social distancing (keeping 1.5m distance)
- Wearing a face on public transport, in ride-share vehicles and taxis, in sensitive settings such as aged care facilities – and in some larger retail settings including indoor shopping centres, supermarkets, department stores, indoor markets. This means carrying a mask with you at all times.
- Private/public gathering limits
- Not knowingly mixing with persons who are unwell, isolating or in quarantine.
- Abide by the directions that apply to all

Victorians when they leave their home.

Havilah is required to undertake and document a risk assessment for residents going on and returning from outings. This can take some time to organize and we ask that outings be organized 24 hours in advance if possible. Outings could include outings with family, it may be going home, going to the shops and bank or for a drive and coffee. Please book the outing through the main reception at Harkness either in person, emailed ([mail@havilah.org.au](mailto:mail@havilah.org.au)) or by phoning 5461 7387. If possible please arrange your outings between 10.00am and 4.00pm. There is a protocol in place for the safety of residents prior to leaving the facility and upon return. Please remember when we ask you questions about your outing we are not just being nosy. Under the current government rules we must document the details of where you go who you are in contact with etc. It is all about keeping everyone safe and a small price to pay for the current freedoms we are all now able to enjoy

### **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](http://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/case-locations-and-outbreaks-covid-19)>