

Dear Residents, Relatives and Friends

Today I am pleased to announce relaxation of visiting restrictions at Yallambee Lodge from Wednesday 24th June. On behalf of residents and staff at Evergreen I would like to thank you for your patience over the last few months.

Rationale

The precautions taken in Australia have been successful and risk levels have reduced. We have had no COVID-19 cases amongst our residents or staff, there have been no outbreaks in the local area for several weeks and only one local transmission in NSW in the last week.

We have also reviewed new advice from the Australian Health Protection Principal Committee together with today's NSW Government Public Health (COVID-19 Aged Care Facilities) Order (No2) 2020.

Changes to Visiting

From Wednesday 24th June, residents will be able to receive visits every day. A maximum of two visitors can attend at one time and visitors must remain in the resident's room or in the garden area. This is important so that our residents can continue to move freely around their home.

In order to comply with the required screening process, we ask visitors to attend within the published reception hours, and bookings will be required. This will enable us to maintain physical distancing at the entrance to Yallambee Lodge and avoid long queues on entry.

Children will be welcome to visit but must be closely supervised and comply with flu vaccination, hygiene and physical distancing rules.

As before, exceptions can be made for end of life care and special needs, through application to the Care Manager or Facility Manager.

We encourage you to consider video calls if you are unwell, unable to visit in person or have a large family group that wish to meet together. Please book through reception if you would like our Lifestyle team to facilitate a call.

Our updated Visitor Guide can be found on our website by clicking this [link](#) and a copy is attached to this email.

Resident Outings

We are very aware that the whole community has been feeling the impact of restraints on movement, particularly people who are over 70 or have poor health and have needed to take extra precautions.

The good news is that, residents will now be permitted to leave the Lodge to attend small family gatherings. We are required, however, to undertake a risk assessment for each visit, and maintain a record of the visit location, number of people in the gathering and date of visit. For this reason, we request that you provide as much notice as possible of a planned outing so that we can take the appropriate safety precautions.

We will endeavour to make this work where-ever possible, however, there may be occasions where a resident may need to isolate on return if a risk assessment is not completed or the outing is assessed as high risk.

Caution is Still Required

Unfortunately, the current outbreaks in Victoria demonstrate how quickly the virus can spread if members of our community become infected. Older people and people with chronic health conditions are particularly vulnerable, so we all need to remain vigilant and take precautions to protect our community at Evergreen. If there are any cases of locally transmitted COVID-19 on the Central Coast, we may need to change arrangements at short notice.

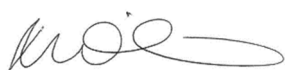
Management will continue to monitor the situation closely and will provide updates monthly or earlier if the situation changes.

We are also looking into options to create an online visitor booking system and automation of screening and temperature checks. Stay tune for more information.

Tell us what you think

We understand each person and family is different and endeavour to accommodate various needs in these arrangements. Please let us know whether the new visiting arrangements are working well or if you have any suggestions for improvement.

Stay safe and best wishes

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Helen Wilson".

Helen Wilson
Chief Executive Officer

Social Snippets

Getting crafty.....!



Angus

Our furry friend Angus came for another visit last week! He's looking right at home on Anthea's bed!



A picture tells a thousand words! Doris and Gerry speak for themselves.....!

