

(Shortened) Visiting Policy during COVID 19 Pandemic

Our priority continues to be keeping the residents living with us and staff working at The Shelley as safe as possible to reduce the risk of coronavirus (COVID-19) transmission. We understand that lockdown has been very difficult for many residents and families, both when we have been closed and when we have had restricted visiting during the summer.

The COVID pandemic is now a longer term health issue & our visiting policy ensures we adapt and are flexible to visiting in this period but adhere to government guidance.

Visiting is permitted regardless of the tier which the Sussex Area is in. The policy will be reviewed as Government Guidance and the COVID 19 Pandemic changes:

- Screen visits for non-nominated individuals will be in the morning at 10:00, 11:15.
- Face-to-face visits for nominated individuals will be at 14:00, 14:30, 15:00, 15:30, 16:00 & 18:00 will last for 1 hour after testing has been carried out.
- Upon arrival all visitors must arrive with masks on, ring the front doorbell, wash hands and have their temperature's tested upon arrival.
- You will be required to complete an electronic Health Screening Questionnaire each time you visit, as well as a consent form for your test result to be shared with the home.
- Visits will be limited to the named individuals or a maximum of two visitors per resident behind the Perspex screen. This is to limit the overall numbers of visitors to the care home and the consequent risk of infection.
- Visits will be restricted two visits per resident per week to allow all the residents and families the opportunity to see their loved one's. Where a family member is visiting for a short period from elsewhere in the UK we will allow three separate visits in a given 7 day period.
- Visiting will be in resident bedrooms or in the gardens (as visitors/residents wish).
- If any of the residents are very poorly or potentially end of life, we will allow extra visits to take place in bedrooms.
- In the event of an confirmed or suspected outbreak in our care home visiting will be suspended until we are COVID free.
- FaceTime with residents can be arranged for any time during 10am – 7pm (please respect meal times between 12:30-1:30 and 5:30-6).

Lateral Flow Testing (LFT) to visit residents

LFT's return a COVID 19 test result within 30 minutes and are carried out on site. The use of LFT's for visiting relative's will be the decision of the Registered Manager who is best placed to assess the risk and safety to the wider home, in the context of the Coronavirus pandemic at a given point in time. The Shelley residential Home should make clear that Flow Testing does not completely remove the risk of infection associated with visiting.

- Testing will take place in the Reception area
- The test must return negative prior to entering the building.

- Government requirements are that a visitor who tests positive to immediately self-isolate and complete a confirmatory PCR test which should be provided to them by the care home. If the confirmatory PCR comes back positive, their household must also self-isolate and contacts may also need to self-isolate in line with current government guidance. Consent is gained from visitors to participating in testing.

We are asking visitors to be supportive of the home and recognise that the home will need to 'share out' visiting appointments so everyone gets the chance to have one.

Even though you and your loved one may have had the vaccine it is still very important to follow all of this advice and be careful with PPE and social distancing to reduce the risk of infection.

The Shelley Residential Home