

2 November 2021

Dear Residents, Families, Visitors and other Stakeholders

On November 1 we saw two significant changes come into effect in NSW. Fully vaccinated Australians returning from overseas were welcomed back without the need to enter hotel quarantine and fully vaccinated people from Greater Sydney are once again free to travel to the regions.

While this may raise concerns for some in regional communities many people are excited by the opportunity to be reunited with family and friends after months, and in some cases years, of separation.

In addition to these community changes we have been advised of some changes to the visitor restrictions in Aged Care.

Changes to visitations from 1 November 2021

- 2 fully vaccinated people aged 12 years and over, can now be accompanied by 2 children aged under 12 for one visit each day.
- Visits where children under 12 are present must take place outside and children under 12 must be accompanied by fully vaccinated person/s.
- Fully vaccinated visitors returning from overseas may visit after completing the requirement to demonstrate proof of a negative COVID-19 test taken on or after day 7 following their arrival in Australia.

What stays the same

- End of life visits may be permitted for those who are unvaccinated and those who can provide a [COVID-19 medical contraindication certificate](#).
- All visitors must correctly wear a **surgical mask** at all times whilst in the facility including while inside a Residents room. Reusable masks (including cloth masks) are not permitted. Please ask at Concierge for a compliant mask.
- Visits must take place in the Residents room or outside in the Plaza only. **Visits in Resident shared spaces inside the facility are not permitted.**
- The Chapel and Coco's Hair and Beauty Salon are available to Residential Care Residents only. Visits cannot take place in these areas.

Barney's Café

We are very pleased to announce *The Verandah at Barney's* will soon reopen to visitors of Residential Care Residents. *The Verandah at Barney's* is being made available for Residents and their visitors to sit and enjoy a meal and refreshments whilst remaining outside the facility.

Entry will be via Reception and all formal entry and screening requirements must be met. Orders can be placed at the counter and masks must stay in place until patrons are seated outside.

The Verandah at Barney's will not be open to Independent Living Residents at this time.

Barney's Café inside seating remains open to Residential Care Residents only and no visitors will be allowed to be seated inside.

Barney's in the Plaza

While we have experienced an unfortunate pump breakdown recently, that closed Barney's in the Plaza, we are happy to announce that we are back up and running.

Barney's in the Plaza will remain open to all Residents and their visitors, including Independent Living Residents. In line with current Public Health Orders that govern Cafés all visitors aged 12 and over to Barney's in the Plaza must be fully vaccinated and must check in using the Services NSW QR Code.

COVID-19 booster program

You will have heard in the news recently about COVID-19 boosters. Due to the age of residents, and because they were prioritised for early vaccination, many are now due for their booster dose. A booster program will be rolled out in residential aged care. Information is still being disseminated to providers on how the booster program will be undertaken. We will communicate more on this as soon as information is available.

We are hopeful that as we progress along the path to re-opening we will continue to see a relaxation in the restrictions placed on entry to Aged Care, however history has shown that changes in aged care have been slower to filter through due to the vulnerability of those in our care.

We thank you for your patience and understanding as we all work together through this period of change.

Warm regards



Michael Penhey
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER