



Guidelines for visiting during the Covid-19 Pandemic from September 14th, 2020:

- We look forward to seeing everyone again following our visiting pause over the last fortnight which aimed to protect residents, staff, and visitors from potential exposure to Covid-19 as Ireland is opening.
- We would like to take this opportunity to thank all our residents , families, loved ones, volunteers and staff for assisting in our visiting schedule in over these last few extraordinary months.
- St Luke's values the importance of our residents maintaining family connections with their loved ones.
- We also have a responsibility to ensure the autonomy of residents and the right to have visitors is balanced with the need to ensure that visitations do not compromise overall resident care and safety.
- During the next phase of opening to visitors , we are delighted to welcome **two visitors** per resident **twice a week** for 30 minutes each visit.
- The nominated visitors may change periodically, 1st Monday of the month, as per the request of the resident, as per a person-centred approach model. Please liaise with Eugene Browne regarding this matter.
- Indoor visits will occur in designated areas in the Home.
- Outdoor visits, weather permitting is also encouraged.
- Visits will be at designated times, offering flexibility of some evenings and weekends also.
- The Home will of course prioritise other visits based on the clinical need of our residents.
- Visits by a child may be facilitated in the near future, if the child is accompanied by an adult who takes responsibility for ensuring appropriate conduct and the child is able to comply with the general requirements for visiting.
- Visits should be arranged with our social worker Eugene Browne
- We respect the resident's right also to decline a visit.
- Unplanned visits cannot be facilitated.
- Screening of visitors will comprise of the following: Symptom and Temperature Check, determination of previous known exposure to Covid-19, use of correct hand hygiene techniques, visitors with fever or respiratory symptoms will not be admitted, visitors are required to wear a surgical mask (provided by the Home), social distancing of 2m is to be maintained.
- St Luke's will provide any necessary personal protective equipment required (PPE). All visitors to residents' rooms will be required to wear PPE consisting of standard aprons, surgical masks , full gown if a resident requires isolation.
- No food/refreshments are to be consumed and use of resident's toileting facilities is not permitted.

- There are designated bathroom facilities in the home for visitors in day-care.
- If you should have any queries regarding your loved one, please contact the respective unit and link in with the nurse on duty please.
- Volunteers and redeployed healthcare workers are currently assisting us with our visiting programme and will not be aware of the care needs of your loved one.
- Periodically, we may have to pause our visiting schedule if we have a query suspect covid case in the first instance, we will risk assess and may need to restrict visiting. If the Home has a confirmed Covid positive case, we may need to pause/suspend visiting for a period until it is safe for all to visit. We will of course, keep you abreast of such issues.
- The Person in Charge will be notified of any difficulties encountered in implementing any of the above measures and actions will be taken accordingly.
- Most importantly, we wish you an enjoyable visiting experience with your loved one and please liaise with our social worker Eugene Brown if you have any concerns regarding the visiting schedule.

Orla Coleman
Director of Nursing
11th September 2020