

Sunday 20 December, 2020

Dear families and friends,

URGENT: Updated Advice for all Families and Visitors

We are writing to you again tonight to inform you of recent changes to the Public Health advice issued by NSW Health this evening. These changes reflect the increasing number of case locations across New South Wales and are extremely important in keeping residents safe as case numbers and locations continue to rise.

1. Home closures across aged care homes in NSW

- As of Sunday 20 December, NSW Health has now issued visitor restrictions for all aged care homes in NSW until 11:59 pm on Wednesday 23 December 2020. All residential aged care homes across NSW must exclude visitors, unless there are exceptional circumstances, such as end of life visits, or the visitor is providing routine direct personal care for the resident. Please discuss exceptional visits with your local home.
- Further advice will be provided by NSW Health on the morning of Wednesday 23 December 2020. BaptistCare has decided to use the same advice for our ACT homes, which are now also closed to visitors.

2. Wearing of Surgical Masks

- All staff and **exempted visitors** must wear a surgical mask in all BaptistCare homes across NSW and ACT.

3. Christmas Visitations

- Christmas visitation will be based on the advice we receive on the morning of Wednesday 23 December 2020. It is our hope that there will be options for families to see their loved ones over the Christmas period, and we will provide you with an update as soon as we have received the relevant advice from NSW Health.

As we advised this afternoon, we are committed to keeping you up to date and sharing information with you as soon as it becomes available. This may mean that notifications and advice, from time to time, may be sent out at short notice and may also involve some differences between homes, based on the local situation.

We thank you again for your ongoing support as we respond to this situation

Allan Waters



BaptistCare General Manager – Residential Services