

8th February 2022

Dear All,

I am pleased to be able to inform you our local Public Health Unit has advised today that St. Joseph's is no longer a COVID-19 Outbreak Site. This is because our residents have remained symptom free and tested negative on their Rapid Antigen Tests (RATs).

This means that St. Joseph's is now able to welcome visitors from 10am tomorrow morning (Wednesday 9th February 2022). I am sure you'll agree this is good news for our residents, families, staff and community.

As you are aware, NSW Health has in place certain criteria for visiting a residential aged care facility and we are also following the **Industry Code for Visiting in Aged Care**. These guidelines help us to manage the risk of COVID-19 entering the facility again, and also to protect our vulnerable residents, while also enabling them to enjoy seeing loved ones again.

Visitor Guidelines

- From Wednesday 9th February 2022 two fully-vaccinated visitors aged 12 years and over will be permitted to visit per day, plus two children aged under 12 years per day, provided they are accompanied by a fully-vaccinated person.
- Visitors will need to bring a Rapid Antigen Test (RAT) with them to each visit and a staff member will facilitate the test; a negative test will be required to continue the visit. A PCR (taken within the previous 72 hours) is also acceptable.
- Further information on alternative vaccination scenarios is attached.
- All visitors must wear a surgical mask and visits must be in the resident's room, or an outside area, but not in any inside communal areas.

In terms of our residents leaving the facility, the following mandatory measures are in place:

- Residents are permitted to leave the facility and attend small family gatherings but must abide by the current Public Health (COVID-19 Additional Restrictions for Delta Outbreak) Order (No 2) 2021
- Residents must not go into an area that is under a 'stay at home' order.

Can I please take this opportunity to remind you to book your visit in advance, using St Vincent's Lismore booking link: <https://stvincentslismore.zipline.app/>

Thank you for your patience during these challenging times and if you have any further questions regarding these changes, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely



Penny Stanley
Manager Aged Care
pstanley@svh.org.au

St Joseph's Nursing Home - Visitor and Outings Arrangements 23rd December 2021

Visitors to St Joseph's Nursing Home		
Visitor's vaccination status (COVID-19)	Testing requirements	What types of visits
Fully Vaccinated	Negative result from Rapid Antigen Test (RAT) on visit <i>OR</i> PCR Test within 72 hours	All forms of visiting including resident room and designated areas
Children not eligible for vaccination	Negative result from RAT on visit <i>OR</i> PCR Test within 72 hours (where practical)	Outdoors / infection controlled visiting area (end of life visits permitted indoors).
Partially Vaccinated • Waiting for 2nd dose • <14 days since 2nd dose	Negative result from RAT on visit <i>OR</i> PCR Test within 72 hours	Essential Visitors Only (partners in care)
Not Vaccinated	Negative result from RAT on visit <i>OR</i> PCR Test within 72 hours	End of Life Only

Residents Leaving St Joseph's Nursing Home		
Visitor's vaccination status (COVID-19)	Testing requirements	What types outings?
Fully Vaccinated , partially vaccinated and not vaccinated	Visitor Negative result from RAT on arrival for collection <i>OR</i> PCR Test within 72 hours of collection Resident Negative result from RAT on return to facility	Medical appointments, outings & family trips

Rapid Antigen Tests are widely available. Please bring with you your test kit for supervised testing on arrival.