



SUNDALE

CREATING COMMUNITIES SINCE 1963



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## COVID-19 (novel coronavirus) update

As a valued member of the Sundale community, I wanted to provide you with an update and outline Sundale's current approach to managing the COVID-19 situation.

### AGED CARE DIRECTION (No.26)

Overnight, the Queensland Government released [Aged Care Direction \(No.26\)](#).

From **3 May 2021**, a person must not enter, or remain on, the premises of a residential aged care facility in the State of Queensland if:

- the person does not have an up-to-date vaccination against influenza, if the vaccination is available to that person.

*Note: the vaccination is not available to a person only if:*

- *the person has a medical contraindication (Guillain-Barré syndrome - lower immunity from cancer treatment – anaphylaxis reaction) to the influenza vaccine; or*
- *the person is observing the recommended waiting period between receiving the COVID-19 vaccine and the influenza vaccine.*

### SUNDALE CARE CENTRES - RESTRICTED RESIDENTIAL AGED CARE FACILITIES

In line with a directive from the Queensland Government, all Care Centres throughout Queensland remain classified as **Restricted Residential Aged Care Facilities**.

The decision to restrict access until at least 15 April 2021 at all Queensland Aged Care Facilities prioritises the health and safety of all care recipients.

In line with recommendations outlined by Queensland Chief Health Officer, Dr Jeannette Young, only end-of-life support visits are exempt from the directive.

### [AGED CARE DIRECTION \(No.26\)](#)

#### PART 1 – REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL RESIDENTIAL AGED CARE FACILITIES

9. A person must not enter, or remain on, the premises of a residential aged care facility in the State of Queensland if:

- a. during the 14 days immediately preceding the entry, the person who is an international

arrival arrived in Australia from a place outside Australia; or

- b. during the 14 days immediately preceding the entry, or since the start date identified for the COVID-19 hotspot, whichever is shorter, the person has been in a place which at the time of entry is a COVID-19 hotspot; or
- c. during the 14 days immediately preceding the entry, the person had known contact with a person who has a confirmed case of COVID-19; or

*Note: Known contact with a person who has a confirmed case of COVID-19 under paragraph 9(c) does not include contact that occurs when a residential aged care worker or healthcare worker or practitioner providing health or medical care has been wearing appropriate PPE in accordance with Queensland Health's Residential Aged Care Facility and Disability Accommodation PPE Guidance and has followed recommended infection control precautions.*

- d. the person has a temperature equal to or higher than 37.5 degrees or symptoms consistent with COVID-19; or
- e. the person has been tested for COVID-19 and has not yet received the results of that test; or
- f. after 3 May 2021, the person does not have an up-to-date vaccination against influenza, if the vaccination is available to that person.

*Note: the vaccination is not available to a person only if:*

- the person has a medical contraindication to the influenza vaccine; or
- the person is observing the recommended waiting period between receiving the COVID-19 vaccine and the influenza vaccine.

### **PART 3 – REQUIREMENTS FOR RESTRICTED RESIDENTIAL AGED CARE FACILITIES**

#### **PERSONS PERMITTED TO ENTER A RESTRICTED RESIDENTIAL AGED CARE FACILITY**

29. A person must not enter, or remain on, the premises of a restricted residential aged care facility in the State of Queensland unless:

- a. the person is an employee, contractor or student of the restricted residential aged care facility; or
- b. the person's presence at the premises is for the purposes of providing goods or services that are necessary for the effective operation of the restricted residential aged care facility, whether the goods are provided for consideration or on a voluntary basis; or
- c. the person's presence at the premises is for the purposes of providing health, medical, personal care (such as hairdressing), pathology or pharmaceutical services to a resident of the restricted residential aged care facility, whether the goods or services are provided for consideration or on a voluntary basis;
- d. the person's presence at the premises is for the purposes of end of life visit for a resident of the restricted residential aged care facility; or

*Note – Paragraphs 20 to 22 require persons coming from overseas or COVID-19 hotspots to obtain an exemption before attending a residential aged care facility for an end-of-life visit.*

- e. the person's presence at the premises is required for the purposes of emergency management, law enforcement or the exercise of a power or function of a government agency or entity under a law; or
- f. the person's presence at the premises is in the person's capacity as a prospective resident of the restricted residential aged care facility or as a support person of a prospective resident of the restricted residential aged care facility; or
- g. the operator of a residential aged care facility has granted permission for the person to enter a restricted residential aged care facility for the purposes of maintaining continuity of care for a resident that cannot be delivered by electronic or non-contact means.

*Example: A resident may require support from their primary care giver to eat their meals.*

30. A person may not visit a resident in a restricted residential aged care facility other than in accordance with paragraph 29(d) above.

*Note – personal visits are not permitted in a restricted residential aged care facility.*

31. Despite paragraph 30, a person must not enter, or remain on, the premises of a restricted residential aged care facility unless in accordance with Part 1 of this Direction.

#### **WEARING OF FACE MASKS**

33. Any person (other than a resident) must not enter, or remain on, the premises of a restricted residential aged care facility without wearing a single use surgical face mask.

*Note – a person who does not, or is unable to wear a face mask, must not enter a restricted residential aged care facility.*

34. Despite paragraph 33, a person may remove their single use surgical face mask if wearing one is not safe in all the circumstances.

*Example – a person may temporarily remove their face mask if wearing one will cause severe distress to a resident.*

35. A person who removes their single use surgical face mask under paragraph 34 must resume wearing the single use surgical face mask as soon as practicable after the circumstance ends.

*Example – a person must resume wearing a face mask as soon as they leave the distressed resident's room.*

36. A person may be required to wear additional personal protective equipment in certain circumstances in accordance with Queensland Health's Residential Aged Care Facility and Disability Accommodation PPE Guidance.

Sundale will continue to work with Queensland Health and make responsible, considered decisions to help minimise the threat of COVID-19 entering Sundale.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'DM', with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Danielle Mackenzie  
Sundale CEO