

(Shortened) Visiting Policy for Relatives during COVID 19 Pandemic

Our priority continues to be keeping the residents living with us and staff working at Place Farm House as safe as possible to reduce the risk of coronavirus (COVID-19) transmission. We understand that lockdown has been very difficult for many residents and families, both when we have been closed and when we have had restricted visiting during the summer.

The COVID pandemic is now a longer term health issue & our visiting policy ensures we adapt and are flexible to visiting in this period but adhere to government guidance.

We have updated our policy in light of the new tiered approach which the Local COVID alert levels announced on Thursday 26th November. **Visiting is permitted** regardless of the tier which the Sussex Area is in. The policy will be reviewed as Government Guidance and the COVID 19 Pandemic changes:

- Appointment times will be 10:30, 11:30, 2:30, 3:30 & 4:30 & will last for 50mins. These can be booked by phone and email.
- Upon arrival all visitors must arrive with masks on, ring the front doorbell, wash hands and have their temperature's tested upon arrival.
- The 2-metre social distancing should be adhered to even behind a Perspex screen.
- Visits will be limited to maximum of two visitors per resident. This is to limit the overall numbers of visitors to the care home and the consequent risk of infection.
- Visits will be restricted to one visit per resident per week to allow all the residents and families the opportunity to see their loved one's. Where a family member is visiting for a short period from elsewhere in the UK we will allow two separate visits in a given 7 day period.
- If any of the residents are very poorly or potentially end of life, we will allow visits to take place within the home, subject to risk assessment and Lateral Flow Testing
- We would prefer that young children or pets do not accompany family on visits.
- In the event of an outbreak in our care home visiting will be suspended until we are COVID free.
- FaceTime with residents can be arranged for any time during 10am – 7pm (please respect meal times).

Lateral Flow Testing (LFT)

LFT's return a COVID 19 test result within 30 minutes and are carried out on site. The use of LFT's for visiting relative's will be the decision of the Registered Manager who is best placed to assess the risk and safety to the wider home, in the context of the Coronavirus pandemic at a given point in time. Place Farm House should make clear that Flow Testing does not completely remove the risk of infection associated with visiting.

- Testing will take place in the Summerhouse you will need to arrive 40 mins prior to your appointment to allow the test to be carried out.
- The test must return negative prior to entering the building

- Visiting will only be in the Dining Room.
- Exiting from Place Farm House after your visit will be via the Dining Room, rather than by the front door.
- Government requirements are that a visitor who tests positive to immediately self-isolate and complete a confirmatory PCR test which should be provided to them by the care home. If the confirmatory PCR comes back positive, their household must also self-isolate and contacts may also need to self-isolate in line with current government guidance. Consent is gained from visitors to participating in testing.

Place Farm House Residential Home