



**SUNDALE**

CREATING COMMUNITIES SINCE 1963



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## COVID-19 (novel coronavirus) update

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

### RESTRICTED RESIDENTIAL AGED CARE FACILITY

[Aged Care Direction \(No.25\)](#), was released on 13 March 2021. Although Aloaka Care Centre in Kilcoy is not included in the 'Greater Brisbane' area, Sundale has made an informed decision to classify Aloaka Care Centre as a *Restricted Residential Aged Care Facility*, despite no confirmed cases of COVID-19 at any Sundale Care Centre or Retirement Community.

The decision to restrict access at Aloaka Care Centre follows information from Queensland Health relating to concerns a COVID-19 situation linked to the Princess Alexandra Hospital in Brisbane could be widespread.

These restrictions include:

- Visitors
  - No personal visitors – including care and support visitors – are allowed to enter
  - Only people providing an essential purpose will be allowed to enter
  - End of life visits will still be allowed
  - Anyone entering a facility must wear a single use surgical face mask
- Residents
  - May only leave the facility to receive health care, attend a funeral or for an emergency or compassionate reason.

*In partnership with Queensland Health, Sundale will continue to review this decision.*

### GREATER BRISBANE TRAVEL

Any healthcare worker or employee of an Aged Care service who has travelled to, or has had close contact with someone who has travelled to/from the [listed locations](#) must notify their manager immediately.

### AGED CARE DIRECTION (No.25)

#### **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.

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

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

28. 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 19 to 21 require particular persons 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.*

29. A person may not visit a resident in a restricted residential aged care facility other than in accordance with paragraph 28(d) above.

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

30. Despite paragraph 28, 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.

## **RESIDENTS**

31. The operator of a restricted residential aged care facility must not permit a resident, excluding an end of life resident, to leave the facility except:

- a. to receive or access health care; or
- b. to attend a funeral; or
- c. in the case of emergency or on any other compassionate grounds.

## **WEARING OF FACE MASKS**

32. 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.*

33. Despite paragraph 32, 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.*

34. A person who removes their single use surgical face mask under paragraph 33 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.*

35. 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 'Michelle McGowan'.

Michelle McGowan  
Executive Manager Aged Care and Community Services