



## VISITORS' POLICY

### REVISED SPRING 2022

This Policy has been revised following the updated guidance of 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022

**“COVID-19 Supplement to the Infection Prevention and Control Resource for Adult Social Care”**

The guidance is to be located at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/infection-prevention-and-control-in-adult-social-care-covid-19-supplement/covid-19-supplement-to-the-infection-prevention-and-control-resource-for-adult-social-care>

Aslockton Hall Nursing & Residential Home recognise the importance of Visitors being able to access the Home to see their loved ones – in particular the positive impact that this has on the well - being and morale of those who live at Aslockton Hall following the COVID-19 pandemic.

***“Contact with relatives and friends is fundamental to care home residents’ health and wellbeing and visiting should be encouraged” (31.3.22)***

#### **WHAT HAPPENS DURING A COVID OUTBREAK?**

Where visiting is modified during an outbreak of COVID-19 or where a care home resident has confirmed COVID-19, every resident should be enabled to continue to receive one visitor inside the care home. End-of-life visiting should always be supported, and testing is not required in any circumstances for an end-of-life visit.

### **The Policy for visiting residents in Aslockton Hall will be:**

- Appointments must be pre – arranged by contacting the Home in advance
- A visitor must evidence a **NEGATIVE LATERAL FLOW COVID-19 TEST** on the day of the visit and complete a disclosure form on arrival
- As a visitor, please do not come to the Home with symptoms of any illness (not just COVID) – all types of virus are potentially harmful and could be fatal to an elderly, frail and vulnerable resident.
- PPE will be provided and must be worn in line with Home Policy. Please ensure that your hands are washed frequently
- From 4<sup>th</sup> April 2022 visits will be permitted to take place in Residents' bedrooms on both upstairs and downstairs floors of the Home (not in communal areas at present)
- Visits to a resident who is at End of Life will continue to be permitted
- Visitors into bedrooms will be limited to **ONE** visitor at a time please at a given time (it may be possible to book a bigger room such as the Clayton Lounge for use by a larger group)

### **The main principles to be considered for risk assessment purposes are:**

- Has the person wishing to visit completed the individual risk assessment which asks whether the person has any symptoms of any sorts – temperature? Loose stools? Headache? This could be signs/symptoms of COVID-19 and other illness which could be transmitted.
- Has a LFT been completed in the past 24 hours ideally on the day of the visit?
- Is there any reason why PPE cannot be worn – is the visitor happy to comply with the PPE policy of the Home?

The new guidance indicates that even in an outbreak each resident should be permitted one visitor. The Home will seek to confirm the identity of the one person (for each resident) who will continue to visit throughout outbreak closure if they so wish.

## TAKING RESIDENTS OUT OF

### ASLOCKTON HALL NURSING & RESIDENTIAL HOME

***“We expect and encourage providers to facilitate residents to take part in visits out of the care home. This could be for a short walk, to attend a place of worship, for education, to attend work or for a longer visit, including an overnight stay to see family and friends”***

All residents (regardless of vaccination status) should not normally need to self-isolate following a visit out, but a risk assessment should be completed with consideration given to:

- the number of people involved in the visit (and whether they are ‘usual contacts’ of the resident or people they do not usually mix with)
- whether those involved in the visit have received a recent negative lateral flow test result
- the characteristics of the setting (for example, enclosed settings would be higher risk than open air settings)

### RE ADMISSION FOLLOWING A HOSPITAL VISIT OR STAY

It may not always be necessary for a Resident to self- isolate from other residents following an emergency stay in hospital or visit out.

Any Resident who has stayed in hospital (elective or not) then the hospital will complete a PCR test 48 hours prior to discharge. If the result is positive the resident may still return to the Home but will need to be placed in self-isolation. Ordinarily there will be no requirement for a resident of the Home to self – isolate unless the resident has been in a hospital where there has been an outbreak of COVID-19:

***“If an individual is being discharged to a care home from a location in the hospital where there was an active outbreak, they should be isolated for 10 days from the date of admission, regardless of whether their overnight hospital stay was planned (elective) or unplanned. This is to prevent possible introduction of infection into the care home”***



The guidance states:

***“Residents should be enabled to receive one visitor and have access to outside space to assist rehabilitation if possible during isolation. Individuals who are isolating should take 2 LFD tests on days 5 and 6, 24 hours apart, and if both are negative, they can end isolation early. Any individual who is unable to test should be isolated for the full 10 days following a positive test”***

During this period of isolation within the care home, residents may continue to undertake visits out of the care home, if:

- a risk assessment by the care provider shows they can avoid other residents
- they are not visiting another social care setting
- consideration is given to the vulnerability of those they will be visiting

### **ATTENDING MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS:**

The Policy for visits out of the Home to attend medical appointments is **UNCHANGED** – Residents will be able to attend as they have been doing. At present short appointments where a person attends a clinic appointment does not warrant self- isolation upon return to Aslockton Hall.

***“Care home residents will no longer be asked to isolate following high-risk visits out of the care home (including following emergency hospital stays) and will not be asked to take a test following a visit out”***

### **OTHER OFF - SITE VISIT INFORMATION:**

Next of kin and friends of residents may wish to take a Resident out of the Home (off site visit). This is to be managed in the following way:

- The Home must be notified of the intended off site visit in advance and this must be recorded in the Visitors’ Diary located in the downstairs office (ie: no



unplanned visits off site)

- A disclaimer (see Appendix) will need to be completed by the person taking the Resident off site which will contain the details above and will need to be signed by the person taking the Resident out.

**This policy will continue to be reviewed and revised in line with any published Government guidance.**

**APRIL 2022**

**Next due for annual review: APRIL 2023**



## APPENDIX

### OFF SITE VISIT DISCLAIMER

This form must be completed by the person who is assuming responsibility for the Resident taking them off the site of Aslockton Hall building & grounds.

- Please confirm the number of people involved in the visit (and whether they are 'usual contacts' of the resident or people they do not usually mix with)

"I can confirm that the people who are involved in the off site visit are "usual contacts" of the Resident \_\_\_\_\_"

- Please confirm the vaccination status of those involved in the visit (if known) below:

#### Person 1:

COVID vaccination 1: \_\_\_\_\_

COVID vaccination 2: \_\_\_\_\_

Booster: \_\_\_\_\_

#### Person 2:

COVID vaccination 1: \_\_\_\_\_

COVID vaccination 2: \_\_\_\_\_

Booster: \_\_\_\_\_

- Please confirm that all those involved in the visit have received a recent negative lateral flow test result

**"I confirm that all of the above persons have received a negative Lateral flow result"**



- Please advise where the off- site visit is to (for example, enclosed settings would be higher risk than open air settings)

“ I confirm that the off - site visit is to

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_”

Date:.....

I .....(insert name

of person) will assume responsibility for ..... (name of resident)

Signed:..... Date:.....