ORANGE - Preservation Plan COVID transmission in the community (but not in Kalyra)

This information was last updated at 0900 am on Monday, 16 November 2020.

We are anticipating that the South Australian Government, led by SA Health, will update restrictions to minimise community transmission of COVID-19 in next 24 - 48 hours.

These new restrictions will be placed on our website when released.

As at Monday, 16 November 2020 no residents or staff at Kalyra retirement or aged care properties have returned a positive test.

We do have a staff member who has been in contact yesterday with someone quarantined by SA Health this morning. In an overabundance of caution that staff member has declared that contact and is staying away until further information comes through and our thanks goes to her for her care and honesty.

However because of the increased community risk identified by SA Health, we have upgraded our operating status from Green (COVIDSafe Plan – no cases) to Orange (Preservation Plan – transmission in the community).

We have left no stone unturned to maximise the safety of our residents and staff.

To date our mitigation strategies have included:

- Compulsory masks for staff
- No entry without flu vaccination
- All staff temperature checked upon arrival
- Testing and isolation of staff with cold/flu symptoms
- Staff education
- Visitors have been strongly encouraged to wear masks at all times
- Staff restricted to working in one location
- Visitor restrictions and screening.

New infection control measures

- We have activated our COVID-19 Preservation Plan.
- Precautionary testing of residents and staff, with cold or flu-like symptoms.
- Staff in hotspot areas required to declare.
- Restriction of visits to one visit per day of up to two people:

- While these visitor restrictions are unfortunate and distressing, they are absolutely critical at this time.
- We will assess exceptional circumstances for palliative care and dementia residents, potential end-of-life situations and other compassionate grounds on a case by case basis.
- Visitors are required to wear masks and if fail to do so a risk management report will be lodged within our system.
- Aged care residents are strongly encouraged to not to go out unless urgent medical need in case of community transmission extending.
- Restricting staff access to those who perform critical functions.
- Further increasing deep cleaning.
- Postponing staff leave.
- Activating a call centre to provide information to residents and families.

<u>Visitors</u>

We have temporarily restricted visitors to our aged care residences at Belair, McLaren Vale and Woodcroft and require masks to be worn.

This is a precautionary but very necessary step.

Residents in our three retirement villages in McLaren Vale, Belair and Woodcroft are not banned from having visitors but they need to observe the SA Health guidelines for older people.

Communication

We know clear, consistent, two-way communication is critical in a situation like this.

Our website will always be our "source of truth" for the most up-to-date information. However we will continue communicating any changes or updates via email, text message, Zoom meetings and our website.

If you wish to be added to our distribution list, please email us at info@kalyra.org.au and let us know if you would prefer updates via email or text messages.

Also, while we often communicate with wider family and friends in our "business as usual" mode, please be aware that in the event of an outbreak, our primary communications will be the Next of Kin and we would rely heavily on that person relaying information to others.

Our most up to date information can be found at www.kalyra.org.au/coronavirus.