

Dear Visitor,

Thank you for being a valued visitor to our facility. Your support helps us to protect the health of your loved ones and the staff caring for them.

We know that infections circulating in the community can spread rapidly among residents in residential care facilities. This could affect our residents' health and our service.

The current COVID-19 variant seems to spread quite easily. Ireland is seeing a rise in COVID-19 hospitalisations and COVID-19 infection in the community. This means that **a summer COVID-19 wave is highly likely**.

However, by working together, we can protect our residents and staff. In addition to our infection prevention and control measures, we need your help. Please consider the following:

Advice for visitors when feeling ill

- If you have symptoms of a viral respiratory infection, such as cough, sore throat, shortness of breath, muscle aches, exhaustion or watery eyes, please do not visit this facility until 48 hours after symptoms have mostly or fully resolved.
- If you have been diagnosed with COVID-19 or other viral respiratory infection, you're
 more likely to give it to others in the first 5 days. Therefore, please do not visit this
 facility until 5 days after you first got sick.
- If you have **diarrhoea** or **vomiting**, please do **not visit this facility until 48 hours after** your last episode of diarrhoea or vomiting.

Hand hygiene

- Each time you visit, please clean your hands using the alcohol hand gel when you arrive and before you leave.
- If your hands are visibly dirty, please wash them for at least 20 seconds.
- Hands should be washed or cleaned:
 - o before and after visiting
 - o after helping with personal care, for example, helping with toileting or feeding
 - after coughing or sneezing
 - o after using the toilet.

Keep up to date with your COVID-19 and other recommended vaccinations

COVID-19 vaccination

 The COVID-19 vaccination is safe and effective. It gives you and your loved ones the best protection against serious COVID-19 illness.

- Recommended COVID-19 vaccination depends on your age and if you're at higher risk from COVID-19.
- The protection from previous vaccine doses or a COVID-19 infection may weaken over time. Vaccination or booster doses help develop or boost your antibodies. These antibodies protect you from becoming seriously ill or needing to go to a hospital if you get COVID-19.
- Talk to your GP or pharmacist for advice.

Other recommended vaccines

• For information about the vaccines recommended for you, visit www.hse.ie

If you have questions or worries about visiting

- Contact us and we can give you advice if you:
 - o have any visiting queries or concerns, or
 - o are uncertain about visiting if you are unwell

Thank you for helping us keep everyone safe.



Advice provided by the Department of Public Health – HSE Dublin and Midlands on 17 June 2025.