

Current visiting rules in Wales

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The rules in full

Our policy is always to try to accommodate visits to the people we support whenever possible, taking account of the needs of the people being visited and any potential risks to the other people who live and work in a service. However, please book any visit to or from a service in advance with the Locality Manager, and bear in mind that it may be necessary to restrict the number of visitors at any one time depending on the size of the service so that social distancing can be maintained.

Currently we ask all visiting family members and friends to wear surgical facemasks when visiting inside, and other PPE as necessary – we can provide this on arrival. We also ask all visitors to take a lateral flow test and return a negative result on the day of the visit itself and to present this on arrival (unless they have proof of a positive test result in the last 90 days, in which case they should present this). All visitors may also need to sign a visitors' book.

We don't require visiting family members or friends to evidence their vaccination status.

Every overnight visit out of one of our services to the home of a family member or friend needs to be risk assessed by the locality manager or someone delegated to do so by the locality manager. We ask that sensible precautions are taken while the person is away but social distancing is not required. All we ask is that if a person we support stays away for one or more nights, if possible they take a Covid-19 test and return a negative result 24 hours before returning home. The risk assessment might identify the need for further measures when the person returns home, such as an additional PCR test if the person lives with others who are clinically extremely vulnerable or 14 days of self-isolation if the visit has been deemed as high risk.

If a person we support comes into contact with someone who subsequently tests positive for Covid-19, they may not need to self-isolate as long as they are fully vaccinated, but may need to return a negative PCR test and then take a lateral flow test between four and seven days after the contact. However, if they are identified by Test, Trace and Protect as having been in contact with someone with the Omicron coronavirus variant, they will have to self-isolate for 10 days regardless of their vaccination status or any negative test result.

These arrangements reflect the current situation but may change over the next few weeks if the infection rate from the Omicron coronavirus variant increases dramatically and guidance from the Welsh government or Public Health Wales changes.

The latest advice from the Welsh government can be found here:

<https://gov.wales/coronavirus>

Specific advice for supported living can be found here:

<https://gov.wales/supported-living-guidance-coronavirus>

Summary of the rules

- Book any visit to or from a service in advance with the Locality Manager.
- It may be necessary to restrict visitor numbers at any one time.
- All visitors must wear a facemask and possibly other PPE. This will be provided.
- All visitors must present a negative lateral flow test taken on the day of the visit, or proof of a positive result in the last 90 days.
- All visitors must have their temperature checked before entering.
- Visitors may be asked to sign a visitors' book.
- Visiting family members and friends don't need to be vaccinated against Covid-19.
- All overnight visits out of our services must be risk-assessed.
- People we support who stay away overnight should take a lateral flow test before coming back.
- Fully vaccinated people who come into contact with someone who develops Covid-19 don't need to self-isolate, unless the contact had the Omicron variant.