

VISITOR POLICY**Statement of Purpose:**

Visitors are a component to the well-being of the residents. They support the mental and emotional well-being of the residents by reducing potential negative impacts related to social isolation.

Definitions:

An **Essential Caregiver** is a caregiver who is:

- a support worker who visits the home to provide support to the critical operations of the home or provide essential services to a resident;
- a person visiting a very ill resident for compassionate reasons including, but not limited to end-of-life care.

A **General Visitor** is a person who is not an essential caregiver and is visiting to provide non-essential services to a resident.

Procedure:

1. All general visitors are permitted into the home.
2. Essential Caregivers and General visitors are encouraged to follow the recommendations from the Public Health Office of Medical Officer of Health regarding the recommended doses of the COVID- 19 vaccine and are also encouraged to get vaccinated in the fall of each year for Influenza.
3. All visitors are strongly encouraged to submit their email to receive Family Newsletters to ensure they are up-to-date on all protocols and overall health status of the Home. Hard copies of the Family Newsletter are available at the business office.
4. All Visitors must follow the Policies and Procedures outlined by the Home based on the best practice guidelines of the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care or Local Public Health guidelines.
5. Visitors are not permitted into the dining room during meals. This was a decision made by the Residents Council.
6. Residents may request that a staff member wear a mask when providing care and the home will recommend accommodating this request.



Nursing Home

Policy #IC – V19

Visiting Hours:

Visitors are permitted into the home to visit a resident. The home does not have specific visiting hours however, visitors are encouraged to follow normal business hours to allow staff to provide care to the residents.

Health and Safety:

Everyone in the Long-Term Care Home, whether staff, student, volunteer, caregiver, support worker, general visitor or resident, has a responsibility to ensure the ongoing health and safety of all by following infection control policies and procedures.

General Visitors are not permitted to enter the home in an outbreak or if a resident is on isolation precautions due to an infectious disease.

Essential Caregivers can enter outbreak areas one at a time.

Everyone must screen for symptoms of or exposure to COVID-19.

Caregivers and general visitors are recommended, but not required to wear a mask.

Infection prevention and control measures continue to be followed, including hand washing and enhanced cleaning.