

4 August 2022

Dear Families and Friends

Good news, the Public Health Unit has stood down the COVID outbreak at Princes Court Homes and we can now revert back to pre-COVID outbreak conditions. We can confirm that it has been 7 days since our last positive COVID case.

Thanks to the excellent efforts of staff, we have been able to keep the outbreak to a small number of residents. The staff need to be congratulated for the commitment and additional tasks undertaken and the challenges experienced, especially in filling shifts given COVID symptoms and other aliments in the community at present. We were able to continue to provide clinical care with minimal disruption to the resident's day to day activities. It was again a team effort and I wanted to thank staff for their enormous commitment and can-do attitude.

As a result, the residents can now move freely around the facility.

The opening up of Princes Court Homes means that visiting of residents can now be extended to more than just the nominated person. There is more about visiting below.

Residents can now go on excursions outside the facility. Please be aware that Mildura currently has a significant number of COVID in the community and in addition to influenza and gastro, so please exercise caution to avoid illness. The details of the outing are still need to be recorded and the potential risk assessed to protect the other residents.

Visits

For Princes Court Homes to be able to manage visits in the safest possible way, maintaining density quotients and screening requirements is vitally important. Regular visiting times are 9.30am to 11.30am Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, Saturday and 1 pm to 4 pm Wednesday. Please call reception to book visits to residents.

Please do not visit if you are a household or close contact, as we are considered a sensitive setting and should be avoided for 7 days following exposure despite Rapid Antigen Test (RAT) results. If you have any symptoms at all of COVID or influenza, please be considerate of the risk and do not attend the facility.

Where residents' health has deteriorated or palliation, family members and close friends will still be able to visit at any time.

Adhere to PPE and mask wearing

The importance of adhering to all the PPE requirements and wear a mask when you are visiting loved ones at Princes Court Homes has now become even more relevant, as we are all more aware of what the consequences are.

Vaccinations

I would encourage those who are eligible, to obtain the fourth booster and flu vaccinations to assist your health and also guard against transmission if you haven't already. These can be obtained through a number of venues including your local General Practitioner, or some pharmacies, via appointment.

Thank you everyone for your support, consideration and messages provided over the last eleven days.

New change to entrance to Princes Court Homes

Over the next two weeks, we will be implementing the changes to the entrance to Princes Court Homes. This will involve the new security gate at the front reception becoming operational. The large gates at the front of the facility will be taken down and line marking and new signs will be added to provide direction. This will mean that residents will be able to be transported to and from the reception area instead of the gate adjoining Mansell Unit and will increase the security at the facility. More information will be provided very soon.

Please contact Sianne Nicholds or myself if you have any concerns or ways that we can improve the outbreak process or any other ideas you may have to enhance the resident's lives at the facility.

Kind Regards

Jenny Garonne CEO