

LOWER FARM NURSING HOME

Covid Visiting Policy

Reviewed in line with Government Guidelines from 12th April 2021

Lower Farm is committed to ensuring the safety of our residents, employees, and visitors into the home. Lower Farm has a duty of care to ensure that all risks are identified and minimised to protect others.

From the 20th of March 2021 Lower Farm can offer a structured visiting regime for all residents. The visiting guidelines are outlined below:

- Every resident will be able to nominate TWO named visitor who will be able to enter Lower Farm for visiting. Babies and toddlers will be able to visit while accompanied by a nominated visitor(s) and they will not count as a nominated visitor(s).
- The nominated visitors will be tested using the lateral flow tests before every visit.
- Lateral flow testing is carried out by taking a swab from the nostril.
- All visitors will have their temperature checked on arrival to the home.
- All visitors are politely asked not to attend prearranged visit if they are feeling unwell or having a temperature.
- All visitors are encouraged to perform their own lateral flow test, however trained individuals are available to assist if needed.
- Visitors must wear the appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) and follow all other infection control measures during visits.
- Visitors must wear disposable aprons, disposable gloves, and a disposable face mask at all times.
- Visitors and residents are advised to keep physical contact to a minimum.
- Visitors and residents may wish to hold hands but should bear in mind that any contact increases the risk of transmission. There should not be close physical contact such as hugging or kissing.
- All visits will be accompanied by a member of the Lower Farm team to ensure guidelines are adhered to.
- Every resident is allowed two visits per week from the nominated visitor.
- Visitors are to prearrange all visits by telephoning Lower Farm and booking a time slot. If babies and toddlers are to accompany the nominated visitor(s) you will need to advise this at the time of booking your appointment.
- Visitors must arrive promptly at the allocated time slot that they have prearranged.

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- On arrival at the home visitors are asked to go to the main reception to inform Lower Farm of their arrival.
- Visitors will then be taken to a side door where a lateral flow test will be performed by a trained individual.
- Visitors must ensure that they use their own black ink pen to complete a declaration form.
- All details that are written on the declaration form will be entered onto the government website including the result of the lateral flow test.
- Lower Farm does not have a designated waiting area therefore visitors are advised to return to their vehicle or remain within the grounds.
- Lateral flow test results take thirty minutes to process.
- A negative test result is required for the visit to take place.
- In the event of a positive or inconclusive result the visit will not be able to go ahead on that day.
- Lower Farm advise that the visitor contact 111 for further instruction following a positive or inconclusive lateral flow test result.
- Clinical waste bins will be provided by Lower Farm to dispose of all used PPE, visitors must place all used PPE in the clinical waste bin.
- Alcohol based hand sanitizer will be provided by Lower Farm and all visitors must apply before applying disposable gloves and when removing disposable gloves.

What to expect during your visit:

- The visit will take place in the front lounge near to the main reception using the patio doors as access in and out.
- The resident will be in the front lounge at the designated time slot, it is important to keep to the allocated time slots as this will impact on other residents' visits.
- Visitors are advised that refreshments will not be offered during the visit to reduce the risk of transmission.
- Visitors are advised that the use of toilet facilities during the visit is not permitted inline with infection control policies.
- Lower Farm recognise that residents vary in their needs, health and current wellbeing with this in mind each visit will be assessed to meet the needs of the residents both individually and collectively.
- Visitors must always keep PPE on during the visit.

Lower Farm reserve the right to suspend all visits if an outbreak of Covid 19 occurs within the home.

If visits are suspended only under exceptional circumstances will a visit take place.

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All visitors that have prearranged visits pending will be notified if visits are suspended.

Lower Farm is regularly informed and updated by the Government and Public Health England. Any modifications that need to be made within the home due to guideline changes the visiting policy will be reviewed and updated.

We ask all visitors to treat Lower Farm employees with respect at all times.

All information and updates will be available on Lower Farm's website,
www.lowerfarmnursing.co.uk

Signed:



Date:

08/04/2021

Policy rewrite date:

April 2023