



1 September 2020

Coronavirus Update #27

Greetings to our Maroba Community

All staff were delighted to welcome visitors back to Maroba last Thursday. We welcomed over 60 visitors that day and the numbers have remained constant since. The atmosphere was lovely and we know our residents were thrilled to see their visitors. Needless to say our volunteers who provide the screening have been very busy. Please thank them when you visit Maroba because without our dedicated volunteers staff would be very stretched indeed.

Once again we are pleased to report there are no positive Coronavirus cases at Maroba and at the time of writing Newcastle has been removed from the NSW Health outbreak list. Whilst this is good news, key staff continue to meet every morning for a de-brief and review of information provided by the health authorities to ensure our visitation arrangements remain current.

As of today the **Central Coast, South Coast, South East Queensland and Cairns** have been added to the NSW Health outbreak list and consequently our declaration sign in sheet. You may ask why we mention Queensland. We know some members of the Maroba Community live there and it is also a popular holiday destination. Unfortunately, until further advice this means we are **not able to admit** any visitors who live or have visited these areas in the last 14 days.

To re-cap and clarify our current visitation arrangements;

1. Visitation is from **10-4.30pm Monday to Friday**.
2. No appointment is necessary on weekdays.
3. All visitors must **exit the building before 5pm** as the doors will be locked and reception will not be staffed to assist your exit.
4. There is to be a **maximum of 2 people only** (Public Health Order) to visit at once, although residents may have 2 lots of visitors in one day at different times.
5. **Children** are included in the maximum number of people able to visit.
6. Visits are to be in rooms only. No congregating in communal areas.
7. Procedural **masks** provided by Maroba are to be worn at all times while on site including in rooms. Cloth masks are not to be worn as they are not TGA approved.
8. Children under 5 years are not required to wear a mask.
9. If you are working and can genuinely not visit in the specified times above we will by appointment facilitate visitation outside these hours. Please contact Reception to arrange an appointment if you absolutely cannot visit during the nominated times.
10. **Family outings or social leave** are unfortunately not possible at this time.
11. **Medical appointments** will continue with the ideal option being Telehealth. Alternatively the first appointment of the day should be arranged. We are no longer able to provide escorts therefore it is up to families to accompany residents in your



private vehicle where possible. If a disabled taxi is required, wipe down and social distancing rules must apply. Please liaise with Manju John if you need clarification or further assistance.

A friendly reminder that as of 1 May 2020 all visitors to aged care facilities are required to be **vaccinated for influenza**. This is a legislative requirement and we are required to sight a copy of certificates (e-copy is fine) on arrival. Please remember to pass this on to family and friends as we have unfortunately had to turn away some visitors in the last week as they did not have a vaccination certificate to show us.

As mentioned previously it has been wonderful to have visitors back at Maroba. The smiles on our residents have said it all. Residents continue to enjoy a full program of activities and the bus trips which have ventured as far as Paterson are still extremely popular. Residents do not leave the bus but are provided with snacks on board.

I hope you have been keeping up to date with our social outings via our Facebook page. The Maroba Connect for September will also be out soon so keep an eye out for it.

We know it is hard keeping up with all the restrictions that we are required to abide by and thank you all once again for your patience and understanding.

Until next time, stay safe.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Viv Allanson'.

Viv Allanson, CEO Maroba