



Last updated: 8 July following an announcement from Victorian Premier Daniel Andrews, MP, on 7 July 2020.

UPDATE FOR PEOPLE LIVING IN LIFE WITHOUT BARRIERS SHARED AND SUPPORTED LIVING HOMES IN VICTORIA AND THEIR FAMILIES, REGARDING THE LATEST STAY AT HOME DIRECTIONS

The Victorian Government has reinstated Stage 3 measures across Melbourne and the Mitchell Shire due to an increase in COVID-19 (Coronavirus) cases. Our priority at Life Without Barriers is protecting the safety and wellbeing of your family member and our staff and we will continue to safely operate our Shared and Supported Independent Living (SIL) in a way that limits the spread of COVID-19 (Coronavirus). We are maintaining a focus on cleaning, hygiene and social distancing within each home.

For the period of the Stay at Home direction issued the Victorian Government, the following advice applies everyone living in Melbourne or the Mitchell Shire.

- 1) Essential visitors only to SIL homes:** Rostered staff, urgent health/medical professionals, emergency maintenance staff, essential deliverers (medications/food/PPE) and only to drop at the front door.
- 2) Families may visit to provide care and support to a resident.** Visits are limited to one visit per day per resident with a maximum duration of 2 hours. No more than 2 people at any one time are allowed. We ask that if you do want to visit that you give staff at the house notice in advance, social distancing, wellness monitoring and hygiene requirements continue. Please do not visit if you are unwell.
- 3) Staff will continue conducting a Daily Wellness Check for every resident.** This will help us to respond quickly if there are any changes that suggest COVID-19 symptoms.
- 4) If a resident has been staying overnight somewhere other than their SIL house** (for example with family), they shouldn't return to their usual SIL home if they, or anyone else is showing possible symptoms of COVID-19. We encourage all residents to stay overnight at their usual SIL home for the duration of the Stay At Home Direction.
- 5) Residents are able to leave the SIL residence** under the same circumstances as all other community members, in line with Stay At Home Directions. This means residents can leave for grocery shopping, medical attention or exercise, with the support of one other person.
- 6) Priority testing is available for people with disability** who are living in residential services and staff who support them. This means we are able to support residents and staff to access testing and results quickly. See attached information from the Victorian Department of Human Services.

We understand how important relationships with family are and we will do all we can to enable this to continue via technology, such as phone calls or video calls. If you have any questions, call your local house manager and you can also call the Life Without Barriers National COVID-19 Response Call Centre on 1800 313 117 or check our website at www.lwb.org.au.

Please refer to the Department of Health and Human Services for more detailed information on Stay at Home requirements.