



CARING HOMES



We will consistently apply infection control procedures and services that meet or exceed the requirements and expectations of our customers, actively pursuing continuous improvement through practices which enable each team member to do their job right the first time and every time



Covid free



100% tested



Correct PPE



Social distancing



Minimising transmission



Hand hygiene



Regimented cleaning



Controlled visits



Safe reunions



Safe admissions

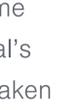


Monitoring Data



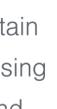
We keep daily records of swab test results from all of our homes and offices so are aware in a timely manner of the Covid status of individual Homes and Offices. Such data allows us to concentrate resources where needed in order to provide extra support and ensure there is increased monitoring where needed

100% tested



We regularly test colleagues and residents across all of our homes and have fully supported the rollout of the Covid-19 vaccination. We have agreements with our contractors and agencies which means we can rely on them to support our strict infection control measures and complete appropriate health screening assessments prior to entering any of our homes. All our family visitors are also LFD tested before entering the home. We realise a swab test is only a snapshot in time and only gives an indication of an individual's Covid-19 status at the time the swab was taken and so regardless of an LFD result, we maintain appropriate Infection Control procedures to reduce the risk of Covid infection. . The best methods to lower the risk of Covid-19 is by ensuring there is a strict admission criteria, appropriate isolation periods, appropriate infection control procedures and the ready availability and correct use of PPE.

PPE supply and use



We have ensured adequate and appropriate supplies of PPE (personal protective equipment) throughout the pandemic and ensure we always have stocks to last months in advance in order to reduce the risk of infection. Our colleagues are all required to wear appropriate PPE and training is provided on the correct use of PPE and Infection Control. Visitors are also asked to wear the PPE we provide and to follow our infection control procedures.

Social distancing and Isolation



We are limiting the numbers of visitors in a home at any time and there is prominent signage to remind all visitors to observe social distancing advice. Visits are being discreetly monitored to ensure there is no physical contact and social distancing is observed whenever possible.

We have taken all reasonable steps to maintain a 2m distance in the workplace including using Perspex screens in some reception areas and, where people cannot keep 2m apart, we have ensured at least a 1m distance and taken all actions possible to manage transmission risk.

Latest Guidance reviews the need for isolation for non-Hospital admissions



The Government has announced that admissions are of less risk if a person has been appropriately vaccinated and the person is being admitted from their own Home and not from another Care Home or Hospital setting.

*Residents may be admitted to a care home from the community without needing to complete a 14-day self-isolation period, if they satisfy the following:

1. The person admitted is fully vaccinated, and at least three weeks have passed since their second vaccination.
2. Local guidance from the Director of Public Health about community transmission of variants of concern is followed.
3. The person admitted has had no known contact with a Covid -positive person in the weeks prior to admission.
4. The care home has taken into account the circumstances at the person's home, prior to admission. This may include any isolation the person has undergone in their own Home and any contact the person has had with someone suspected or confirmed as having Covid.
5. The person is subject to an enhanced testing regime consisting of a PCR test before admission (within 72 hours), a PCR test on the day of admission (day 0) and a further PCR test 7 days following admission (day 7). Additionally, there should be daily LFD testing until the day 7 PCR result has been received.

Minimising transmission



Every person entering our homes is required to complete a health screening process which includes a health declaration, a temperature check, and an oximeter check. This includes every colleague working each day, any agency staff, contractors, professionals, and visitors. All are asked to wear the appropriate PPE. Our colleagues are asked to work in only one location to minimise transmission across our homes.

We only use agency staff if absolutely needed and we have put measures in place to ensure they are appropriately tested for Covid-19 infection and have not been working in a Covid-19 positive environment prior to working with us.

Residents are asked to self-isolate on admission if they have symptoms or have tested positive following their regular testing schedule or return from a hospital inpatient stay.

We have clear signage throughout our homes to remind colleagues and visitors to follow good hygiene procedures and our teams have all completing the enhanced infection control training modules through our digital learning platform. Our homes have sanitiser and handwashing stations for use by colleagues and visitors. Housekeeping colleague hours have increased to ensure cleaning regimes in line with increased numbers of visitors to our homes and the sanitation regime which needs to take place in-between visits.

Hand Hygiene

We have enhanced cleaning, handwashing and hygiene procedures in line with government guidance, including establishing hand washing stations in the reception areas of all homes, as well as having plentiful supplies of sanitiser and tissues available.

Training in Infection Control

Our colleagues are trained in infection control and have appropriate equipment in place to help prevent the spread of the virus. We have ensured that all training continues remotely through virtual technology and that all colleagues are able to access training at home 24/7 as well as in the workplace.

Controlled visits

We have risk assessed our homes to determine whether they are prepared for safe visits in line with government guidelines. These are always at the full discretion of the Home Manager and decided on a home by home, resident by resident basis subject to a number of conditions and consultation with Health Protection. Our default position is to always have visitors if possible.

Safe admissions

At Caring Homes, we have developed and implemented some of the most stringent admissions policies in the sector and we do not admit any resident without evidence of a negative Covid-19 test result completed as close to admission as possible. We are in full discussions with Public Health, Local Authorities and CCG's on a case-by-case basis to identify how we can support people needing care without placing our existing residents and colleagues at risk.