

October 6, 2020



## HOME VISITS

Residents now have the option of **home visits with family/friends**. In order to safely manage these appointments, the following guidelines, based on the directives provided by Public Health, are in place.

## SCHEDULING A VISIT

Contact Kathy, Resident Services Coordinator, 902-429-0550 x 113, (M-F, 8 am – 4 pm) to schedule the visit. Visits may occur seven days a week between 9 a.m. and 6 p.m. A reminder of measures to help keep your loved one safe, such as physical distancing, gathering limits, hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette will be reviewed.

Only residents who are not required to self-isolate and who are not demonstrating signs or symptoms of COVID-19 or other illnesses will be permitted to participate in visits.

## PICK-UP / DROP-OFF

Residents are to be picked up and dropped off at the parking spot by the vestibule.

Before you pick up your loved one, you must:

- Arrive at your scheduled time and wait for your family member to be escorted to the vestibule.
- Undergo screening by a staff member for signs and symptoms of COVID-19, consistent with the screening process for visitors to long term care facilities.
- Confirm that you understand the possible impacts of COVID-19 and the importance of masking, physical distancing, gathering limits, hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette to prevent unknowingly transmitting the virus to your loved one.
- Provide information on intended destinations and be prepared to confirm or update that information when the resident returns.

Family members and all those who will be in the vehicle at the time of pick-up will be required to wear a non-medical mask. Residents are encouraged, but not required, to wear a medical mask while traveling in a private vehicle (e.g. family cars) and during the visits when physical distancing can not be maintained. Medical masks will be provided for residents by Saint Vincent's for this purpose.

## TRANSMISSION PREVENTION

- Residents and their families/support person are required to abide by:
  - physical distancing requirements:
    - a mask must be worn if this is not possible,
  - gathering limits,
  - hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette.

## RETURNING TO SAINT VINCENT'S

- Return at the scheduled time. If this is not possible, please notify the receptionist.
- Do not enter the facility. You will be met at the door and the resident will be returned to their unit.
- Report any issues with physical distancing or masking during the visit.
- Should you become ill in the two weeks following time spent with the resident, you must contact 811 for screening and assessment for testing. Should you test positive for COVID-19, you must inform Public Health during their investigation that you have spent time with a resident of Saint Vincent's.