

October 15, 2021



Good Afternoon.

We are pleased to report that we have had no further residents or staff test positive for COVID-19. This means that we are on track to have this outbreak declared over by October 22. Until the outbreak is declared officially over by Public Health, all current restrictions will remain in place.

Thank you for your ongoing patience and support. We have heard from many family members who have been pleased with how the outbreak has been dealt with and the amount of communication they have received. There have been a few family members who disagree with the precautions we have put in place. We understand your frustration, especially when restrictions are in place over a holiday weekend but want to reassure you that we do not take these restrictions lightly. Any restrictions that have been put in place are done so with the direction of Public Health with input from many other sources. Any outbreak is stressful to families and staff, but to have an outbreak of COVID-19 at Saint Vincent's has been the one experience we have been trying so hard to avoid for the last almost two years. We are grateful for the very limited spread of COVID-19 at Saint Vincent's and look forward to next week when the outbreak will be officially over.

COVID-19 vaccination will be required for all staff and designated caregivers by November 30, 2021. As of October 4th all others entering the home (contractors, health providers, services providers, vendors, etc.) require proof of vaccination.

This means once the outbreak is declared over (hopefully October 22) proof of vaccination must be provided by visitors who wish to visit a loved one. This does not include designated caregivers, professionals (such as lawyers or financial advisors), or children under 12 years of age. Exceptions may be made for visitors when a resident is palliative.

Designated caregivers and staff must be fully vaccinated by November 30, 2021 (second dose received by November 16).

This vaccine mandate will allow for a medical exception for staff and Designated Caregivers; however, the criteria is very specific and exception letters can only be issued by a nurse practitioner or physician.

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