

E.J. McQuigge Lodge		
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SECTION: 6.0 Life Enrichment		APPROVED BY: Director of Care
DATE OF ORIGIN: 12/16	REVIEWED DATE(S):	DATE REVISED:

VISITOR POLICY

POLICY: It is the policy of EJ McQuigge Lodge to establish an official method of ensuring all visitors to the Home are in compliance with the *Fixing Long Term Care Act 2021*

PURPOSE: The Home welcomes families/essential caregivers to visit as often as possible and to stay as long as possible. They support the social, mental and emotional well-being of the residents by reducing potential negative impacts related to social isolation. As per the Residents Bill of Rights and FLTCA 2021, every resident has the right to communicate in confidence, receive visitors of their choice and consult in private with any person without interference.

DEFINITIONS

Essential Visitor: is a caregiver, a support worker, a person visiting a very ill resident for compassionate reasons including, but not limited to, end-of-life care, or a government inspector.

Essential Caregiver: is a person identified and designated by the resident, or Substitute Decision-Maker/POA, who provides important personal, social, psychological and/or physical support, assistance and care

Support Worker: A person who enters the home to provide support to the critical operations of the home or provide essential services to a resident.

General Visitor: is not an essential visitor and provides non-essential services either to the operations of the home or to a resident or group of residents. These visits are for social reasons, including personal care services, entertainment, or individuals touring the home

Government Inspector: Inspector with a statutory right to enter a long-term care home to carry out their duties

PROCEDURE

General

1. The policy will follow all applicable laws including any applicable directives, orders, guidance, advice or recommendations issued by the Chief Medical Officer of Health or medical officer of health appointed under the Health Promotion and Protection Act.
2. The Home will ensure a current version of this policy is provided to the Resident Council
3. Residents, or their SDM/POA, have a right to choose who will be deemed an essential caregiver

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<p>4. Essential Caregivers and general visitors are encouraged to stay current with all recommended vaccines, including influenza and COVID-19</p> <p>5. Essential Caregivers and general visitors are strongly encouraged to sign up for the Newsletter on the website to ensure they are up to date on all protocols and overall status of the Home prior to visiting the Home. Hard copies of newsletters will be posted at the visitor's entrance on the Family Information board.</p> <p>6. All visitors entering the building must complete screening upon entrance before entering into the Home. Visitors are not permitted entry to the building if presenting with symptoms of illness, unless for end-of-life circumstances</p> <p>7. All general visitors and essential caregivers are required to sign in at entry, indicating the name of the visitor, contact information, name of resident being visited and the time/date. Visitor logs will be kept for 30 days.</p> <p>Visiting Hours</p> <p>8. The Home provides non-restrictive visiting hours to all residents. To ensure the safety of everyone the doors will be locked with no access unless accessibility is granted with a staff member.</p> <p>Health and Safety</p> <p>9. Everyone in the long-term care home, whether staff, student, volunteer caregiver, support worker, general visitor or resident, has the responsibility follow all infection and prevention control policies of the home.</p> <p>10. Everyone in the long-term care home, whether staff, student, volunteer caregiver, support worker, general visitor, essential caregiver or resident, has the responsibility to treat all with dignity and respect. Abusive behaviour will not be tolerated</p> <p>11. General Visitors are not permitted to enter the home during an outbreak. Essential Caregivers are able to continue to enter the home during an outbreak with instruction by staff for any personal protective equipment required.</p> <p>12. The resident, or SDM/POA, will be responsible to make the Home aware of, and provide any existing legal orders, that would require visitation restrictions to be enforced by the Home.</p> <p>13. All persons entering the Home are to perform hand hygiene frequently, with hand sanitizer provided throughout the building.</p> <p>14. If a general visitor or essential caregiver becomes ill with a confirmed infectious illness and has been in the Home visiting, they are encouraged to alert the Home. This allows for the resident who was visited to be monitored for signs and symptoms of illness.</p>		