

COVID-19 Update

Monday 11th October 2021

Dear Valued Participants, Guardians, Staff and Stakeholders,

Today being the first day of the easing of COVID-19 restrictions across NSW I wanted to take this time to connect with you all and say thank you for your support and understanding as we navigate this pandemic together.

NSW have reached the 70% and heading towards the 80% double vaccination rate. Many of us are keen to get back to visiting family, friends and attending programs but there remains many questions and uncertainty around conditions of changes in restriction easing.

(<https://www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/easing-covid-19-restrictions>)

Brighter Access will continue to follow the NSW Health guidelines:

(<https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/Infectious/covid-19/Pages/disability-latest-advice.aspx>)

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ALL BRIGHTER ACCESS SIL HOMES:

- Two Visitors aged 16 and over may visit a participant per day.
- Visitors must be vaccinated unless they hold an exemption
- All Participants receiving a visitor must be fully vaccinated unless they hold an exemption
- Visitors must wear a mask and QR Code into the home.

Visitors may not visit if:

- Have been to a close or casual contact location
- Have symptoms of COVID-19
- Live with someone who is self-isolating

Participants:

Participants can access the community to exercise, for recreational activities or to attend small family gatherings in line with public Health orders.

There are directions in the Order relating to vaccination requirements including that all people aged 16 years and over must be fully vaccinated to visit:

- hospitality venues such as a café or restaurant,
- cinemas,
- group classes and activities at recreation facilities,
- retail outlets such as shopping centres (not including essential services such as a supermarket or pharmacy)

Participants must wear a mask at indoor venues and when on public transport unless they hold an exemption

Staff:

All facilities located in NSW must ensure that all staff wear a surgical mask. For reasons when masks can be removed, please see [Additional Advice](#).

Staff must not enter the facility at all if they:

- are a close or casual contact of COVID-19, prior to completing their isolation and testing requirements.
- have been to any close or casual locations;
- have COVID-19 symptoms;
- live in a household with a person who is currently self-isolating
- are waiting for a COVID-19 test result (except for surveillance purposes)

COMMUNITY ACCESS AND CENTRE BASED DAY PROGRAM

Brighter Access will recommence all Community Access and Centre based day programmes in line with Public Health Orders, COVID Safe practises include:

- Monitoring vaccination status in line with govt recommendations and offering opportunities to support Vaccination
- Face masks must be worn unless appropriate exemptions in place
- QR Code and COVID screening
- Maintaining social distancing
- Regular hand washing and hand sanitizing
- Adhering to changing public health orders

COORDINATION OF SUPPORTS, BEHAVIOUR SUPPORT, EARLY CHILDHOOD INTERVENTION:

- Face to face service will recommence on a case-by-case bases using a risk assessment approach
- Monitoring vaccination status in line with govt recommendations and offering opportunities to support Vaccination
- Face masks must be worn unless appropriate exemptions in place
- QR Code and COVID screening
- Maintaining social distancing
- Regular hand washing and hand sanitizing
- Adhering to changing public health orders

The COVID-19 Pandemic is an unpredictable and unprecedented time for us all. I am confident with the easing of restrictions Participants, staff and community will enjoy some further freedoms and be able to reconnect with family and friends.

I encourage you all to staff safe and remember to keep up your COVID safe behaviours.

Kind regards,

Tanya Fox (Chief Executive Officer)
Brighter Access Ltd