

Visiting hours currently 9am to 11am and 1pm to 4pm every day including weekends and public holidays

Dear residents and representatives

You will no doubt have seen our message last week confirming new government regulations which prohibit entry to an aged care home from December 6th for anyone who is not double COVID 19 vaccinated.

Thank you to those who have already provided proof of their vaccination status to us. To those who haven't, please remember we cannot allow you entry after December 6th without proof of vaccination. You can always show us your vaccination certificate on your smart phone as proof or a physical vaccination certificate for those who don't have a smart phone. For those who are medically unable to receive the COVID 19 vaccination, we ask that you contact us so that we can talk you through the proof required to gain entry to Boneham. The exemption process is quite detailed and restrictive. More information is available via the following link <https://www.covid-19.sa.gov.au/emergency-declarations/aged-care>. COVID 19 vaccination is not required for children under 12 years of age, but children over 6 months old must still be flu vaccinated in order to visit

At the moment there are no restrictions on the number of people who can visit at any given time. There are still restrictions on the use of common areas for visits. Our café is our only designated common area visiting point at the moment.

Our state borders will open to NSW and Victoria on Tuesday next week and SA Government released new guidelines on self-isolation for close and casual contacts earlier this week. We encourage you to regularly visit the SA Health isolation and quarantine page where the rules will be updated ongoing over coming weeks.

<https://www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/wps/wcm/connect/public+content/sa+health+internet/conditions/infectious+diseases/covid-19/about+covid-19/self-isolation+and+quarantine+advice+for+covid-19+%28coronavirus%29>

We are still unsure what SA Government plans are for regional lockdowns in the event of regional cases so we cannot provide advice as to what may trigger a regional stay at home order and therefore cancellation of visiting to aged care homes at this stage. At Boneham, we are conscious of our obligations to provide a safe environment for our residents and we intend to exercise caution and weigh up risks on a case by case basis as COVID 19 cases arise in our region. We will make our own decisions where there is an absence of government direction. We will carefully balance the risk of a COVID 19 outbreak against the risk of harm to our resident's wellbeing in losing regular visits and support from family and friends. Needless to say we will continue to monitor SA Health websites and news outlets throughout each day (as we have for the last 18 months) for arising issues and then our Incident Management Team will quickly gather to make decisions as they are required.

In the interim we are double checking our staff and visitor compliance with QR code check ins, use of common areas and mask wearing. Please do not be offended if we ask you to show us your QR code check in or remind you about how to appropriately wear a mask or redirect you to our approved common area. These are some of our frontline defences against COVID 19 and we take our role in managing compliance with these safety measures very seriously.



On more positive matters, many of our staff underwent training last week in a training system called "Know me Well". This training provides tools and resources for staff members to better understand our resident's personal histories and methods of interaction for those suffering from cognitive impairment. The training was very valuable and our staff members are actively planning how to apply their learning over coming weeks and months.

We thank you all for your continued support of Boneham and we will need your continued support of the next couple of months as the impact of the border opening becomes apparent. Our commitment is to remain in regular contact with you and provide information as soon as we receive it.

Kind regards

Michael Filsell (CEO BACS)