

Memo

To: All Staff
From: Suzann R. Doherty, Executive Director
Date: July 7, 2021
Re: New Residential Guidelines

Effective immediately and provided it does not contravene local public health directions. These are excerpts from the Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services memorandums Avenue II received. MCCSS is authorizing the following for residential clients –

1. Brief physical contact with visitors.
 - Residents and visitors, regardless of vaccination status, are permitted to engage in brief physical contact (e.g., a hug) during indoor or outdoor visits. This includes essential and non-essential visitors.
 - The requirement for visitors to wear eye protection and a surgical/procedure mask at all times remains in place.
 - Despite masking exemptions, where feasible, residents are strongly encouraged to wear a surgical/procedure mask also.
 - Non-essential visitors must maintain physical distance (2 meters/6 feet) before and after physical contact.

2. Recreational Activities (Short Stay Absences)
 - Residents are permitted to leave the congregate living setting for a short-stay (i.e. same day) absence in the community in alignment with provincial parameters as outlined in the Re-Opening Ontario Act and related orders.
 - This will now include recreational outings (activities for pleasure) in addition to essential absences (e.g., work, school, medical appointment, physical exercise).
 - Please see the *MCCSS Visitors Guidelines 3.0: Re-Opening of Congregate Care Settings* for protocols/requirements re short stay absences for residents.

3. Non-essential indoor visits will be permitted in alignment with the indoor social gathering limits outlined in the [Roadmap to Reopen](#) (e.g. five people in Step Two).
 - Visits must be scheduled and supervised, and mandatory screening, masking/eye protection and physical distancing will be required.
4. Overnight absences (essential and general) will be permitted.
 - Upon return, residents will continue to follow the 14-day precautions unless they have received a negative COVID-19 PCR test result.

For full versions of the memorandums please see our website www.avenueii.com

Any questions, please contact your Manager for more information.