



## The Whiteley Homes Trust

21 June 2021

Dear Residents and Relatives,

### Changes to visiting from 21 June, 2021

The Government recently announced a change to its guidance to care providers on visiting in care homes and on overnight stays for residents. As always, the safety of our residents is our principal concern, and we continue to be committed to doing all we can to facilitate safe visiting that adheres to the Governments' guidelines at all times. I am pleased to be able to confirm that from today, Monday, 21st June 2021:

- Care home residents no longer need to isolate on return from a visit offsite, including overnight stays. Our staff will of course continue to conduct individual risk assessments to ensure any external visits are safe.
- Residents who require an overnight stay in hospital will still be required to self-isolate for 14 days on their return.
- Every resident will be able to nominate an Essential Care Giver (ESG), who can continue to visit them even in the event of an outbreak in our home. The Designated Essential Care Giver will be subject to the same testing arrangements as our staff which means they will be required to undertake at least one PCR Covid-19 test each week which should either be conducted every Wednesday morning before 11am at the Eliza Palmer Hub, or if more convenient, test kits can be collected on Tuesday afternoon and undertaken at home for drop off to the Hub by Wednesday 11am. ESG's will also be required to undertake a Rapid Flow Covid-19 test immediately prior to their visit. The Trust will provide all test kits free of charge for visitors.

As outlined in previous letters, when you book your visit with Reception you will need to arrange in advance which testing session you will be attending. Sessions for morning tests are 10:00 through to 11:30, and for afternoon tests the times are 14:00 through to 15:30. All other screening, infection control requirements and visiting arrangements remain the same.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the home manager, nurse or a senior care lead in the normal way or email me direct at [kevin.humphrys@whiteleyvillage.org.uk](mailto:kevin.humphrys@whiteleyvillage.org.uk). Thank you as ever for your support and cooperation in these difficult times.

Yours sincerely,

**Kevin Humphrys FInstLM**  
Director of Care & Community