

SUBJECT: COVID-19-Outdoor Visitors	SECTION: Environment-Infection Control-Pandemic
POLICY NO: E-ICP8.1	RHRA-27
EFFECTIVE DATE: July 22, 2021	REVIEWED/REVISED DATE: June 6, 2021

Introduction

This policy must be used in conjunction with E-ICP8-Managing Visitors and Visitation.

If anything in this policy conflicts with applicable legislation or regulations or any other provincial requirements, those requirements prevail, and retirement homes must follow all applicable provincial legislation, regulations and requirements.

On May 20, 2021, the Ontario government, in consultation with the Chief Medical Officer of Health, [announced](#) its [Roadmap to Reopen](#) (O. Reg 344/21), a three-step plan to reopen the province and gradually lift public health measures based on the province wide vaccination rate and improvements in key public health and health care indicators.

As of July 16, 2021, although the Ontario government increased outdoor social group sizes to 100, to allow for others to meet in our outdoor spaces, we will be limiting this number to no more than ten people (including the resident) of different households, regardless of immunization status.

General Visitors-Outdoor Visits

These requirements are necessary for outdoor visits, regardless of a home's previous outdoor visitation policy.

Should the Residence go into an outbreak or the resident be self-isolating or symptomatic, all visits will be discontinued, except for essential visitors. (e.g., Paramedics, OT/PT, etc.)

During the visit, visitors must wear a mask and maintain physical distancing for the duration of the visit. This is with exception of brief physical contact when hugging.

All visiting hours will be 8am to 8pm Monday to Friday, and 9am to 7pm Saturday, Sunday and Holidays.

Procedures:

1. The residence will continue with General Visitor-outdoor visits, as long as the weather permits.
2. Visitors are required to check in at the main entrance of the Residence using the intercom to notify staff of their arrival and complete the screening.

3. Visitors are required to register on the Guest Book and complete the required information (this information will assist us with contact tracing):
 - Date
 - Name
 - Phone Number
 - Confirm to not having any symptoms listed on the form.
 - Number of people in your party
 - Name of Resident you are visiting.
4. All visiting hours will be 8am to 8pm Monday to Friday, and 9am to 7pm Saturday, Sunday and Holidays.
5. Outdoor Visiting will be limited to **ten people including the resident** during the outdoor visit.
6. Visitors will be required to wear face covering/masks for the duration of their visit. We ask that visitors bring their own face covering/mask. Non-medical grade masks are acceptable for outdoor visits.
7. Visitors and residents will be required to maintain physical distancing (2 meters separation) for the duration of the visit. This is with the exception of brief physical contact when hugging.
8. Designated outdoor visiting spaces have been established along the grass on Park Street.
9. The visitors are to bring their own lawn chair as well as one for the resident they are visiting.

Screening Protocols & Visitor Requirements

1. Visitors will complete the information in the Guest Book which includes COVID-19 screening questions.
2. The visitor must comply with the home's infection prevention control protocols (IPAC), including;
 - a. Proper use of face covering/mask. Visitors must use a face covering/mask at all times when the visit is outdoors. Visitors are responsible for bringing their own face covering/masks. If the visitor does not bring their own face covering/mask, and the home is not able to provide a mask, the family visitor may not be permitted to visit.
3. All residents and visitors will be provided with this policy and information package, including education on all required protocols. All visitors must review the contents of the information package prior to their visit. Additional applicable policies and procedures will also be communicated to residents as appropriate. (See [Information Package for Visitors](#)).
 - a. Any non-adherence to these rules could be the basis for discontinuation of visits.

Discontinuation of Visits

1. Non-compliance with the residence's policies could result in the discontinuation of visits for the non-compliant visitor.
2. If required, St. Andrew's staff will remind visitors to follow the physical distancing and proper mask use protocols.
3. If the situations continue, management will be notified to enforce the protocols, and the visitor may be asked to leave the premises.

References and Related Policy and Procedures:

1. E-ICP8-Appendix A-COVID-19-Managing Visitors-Types of Visitors
2. [E-ICP8-B - Information Package for Visitors](#)
3. [Ministry of Health \(MOH\) Directive #3](#)

[Ref. Infection Prevention and Control Section]

[Ref. E-IC6-Routine Practices]

[Ref. E-IC7 Additional Precautions]

[Ref. E-ICP3 COVID-19]

[Ref. E-ICP4 Outbreak protocol for COVID-19]

[Ref. E-ICP8-COVID-19 Managing Visitors and Visitation]

[Ref. E-ICP8.2-Indoor Visits-General Visitors]

Date	Revision	Effective
May 21, 2021	Policy rewritten to follow the new Directive # 3 and RHRA recommendation made on May 20, 2021	May 21, 2021
May 28, 2021	Modified number of outdoor visitors at # 3 of Procedures to not exceed 5 including the resident	May 28, 2021
June 6, 2021	Added a note in Procedures in # 1 Added the requirement to pre-book the visit.	June 11, 2021
July 20, 2021	Updated the number of visitors allowed per resident, updated visiting hours. Updated links to Directive # 3 and the Retirement Homes Policy to Implement Directive # 3	July 22, 2021

St. Andrew's Residence, Chatham Operations Manual



Recommended By:

Mindy Jenner

Approved By:

Jessica Smith

Title:

**Mindy Jenner
Community and Client
Relations Manager**

Title:

**Jessica Smith
Executive Director**