

Appendix 1

*This Grid outlines the arrangements which will apply in line with the roadmap back to normalised visiting - this is subject to change and will be reviewed frequently (see Appendix 1a).  
Local outbreaks in specific HSC Trust areas and Care Homes may require an additional specific local response.*

**Pathway Moving towards Normalised Visiting in Care Homes NI**

		Progression is dependent on the outcome of review and is not guaranteed. To note there is the potential to accelerate the easing of restrictions, but also to apply a 'brake' or to regress to a previous step if required and dependent on monitoring. Likewise the potential to accelerate the easing of restrictions will also be kept under review. Public messaging will be critically important and needs to be consistent, clear, accessible and repeated						
		4 week block		4 week block		4 week block		4 week block
	Revie	Cautious first steps	Revie	Gradual Easing	Revie	Further easing	Revie	Preparing for the future
Visiting in the home		Increased number of visits per week to 2; to be reviewed two weeks post implementation with a view to increasing to 3. Visits limited to two people at one time and lasting up to 1 hour. Visits to be accessible over a 7 day period as well as after 5pm.		Increased number of people able to visit at one time to maximum of 4 from no more than 2 households at any one visit and a maximum of 4 visits per week.		No restriction on number of people who may visit but visits limited to visitors from two household per day.		No restrictions on the number of visits or visitors.
		Children can visit and the responsibility will rest with the adult for		Children will be encouraged to visit and the responsibility will rest with the adult for		Children will be encouraged to visit and the responsibility will rest with the adult for		No restrictions on the number of visits or visitors.

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	supervision to ensure they adhere to all IPC measures. Any child visiting will be included in total number of visitors for the arranged visit.	supervision to ensure they adhere to all IPC measures as appropriate. Any child visiting will be included in total number of visitors for the arranged visit.	supervision to ensure they adhere to all IPC measures. Restriction on numbers lifted.	
	Handwashing to replace use of gloves to enable handholding. Aprons and masks to remain.	Close physical contact enabled to include 'brief' hugging. Aprons and masks to remain.	Close physical contact enabled to include 'brief' hugging. Aprons and masks to remain.	Standard IPC measure including hand washing.
	Booking system for all visitors including evenings and weekends	Booking system for all visitors including evenings and weekends.	Booking system for all visitors including evenings and weekends.	No booking system required.
	Visiting in residents own room with window open	Visiting in residents own room with window open.	Visiting in residents own room with window open.	Visitors able to move around home.
	Visitors and residents may meet within the grounds of the home with access to gardens.			
Trips out of the home	Residents may resume trips out of the home following the restrictions applicable to the general public – see <b>Appendix 1b</b> .  Where the resident complies with IPC advice and with the restrictions applicable to general	Residents may resume trips out of the home following the restrictions applicable to the general public – see <b>Appendix 1b</b> .  Where the resident complies with IPC advice and with restrictions applicable to general public there will be	Overnight stays may be facilitated in accordance with appropriate risk assessments following the restrictions applicable to the general public – see <b>Appendix 1b</b> .  Where the resident complies with IPC advice and with restrictions applicable to general public there will be	

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	public there will be no requirement to isolate on return to the home.	no requirement to isolate on return to the home.	no requirement to isolate on return to the home.	
	Shared Care <sup>2</sup> arrangements to resume as previously defined following risk assessment.	Shared Care arrangements to resume as previously defined following risk assessment.	Shared Care arrangements to resume as previously defined following risk assessment.	Shared care arrangements established to meet individual need.
Services into the home	Church Ministers and Faith Groups may book a visit; this in addition to the 2 visits noted above.	Church Ministers and Faith Groups may book a visit; this in addition to the 2 visits noted above.	Individuals from community & voluntary sector groups	Linking Generations work with schools etc. may commence
	Hairdressers may attend as per Executive easing.	Healthcare Students from FE colleges may resume placement.		
	Visiting professionals to resume if not already.			
	Care partner arrangements to continue.	Care partner arrangements to continue.	Care partner arrangements to continue.	

<sup>1</sup> Shared Care is a specific arrangement in place for people with learning disability.

Enabling factors	Enhanced cleaning of individual and communal spaces.	Enhanced cleaning of individual and communal spaces.	Enhanced cleaning of individual and communal spaces.	Enhanced cleaning of individual and communal spaces.
	Maintain adherence to current IPC measures <sup>2</sup> .	Maintain adherence to current IPC measures.	Maintain adherence to current IPC measures.	Maintain adherence to current IPC measures.
	Appropriate mechanisms available to manage easing of visiting restrictions <sup>3</sup> .	Appropriate mechanisms available to manage easing of visiting restrictions.	Appropriate mechanisms available to manage easing of visiting restrictions.	
	Screening of all visitors for signs and symptoms of COVID-19.	Screening of all visitors for signs and symptoms of COVID-19.	Screening of all visitors for signs and symptoms of COVID-19.	Screening of all visitors for signs and symptoms of COVID-19.
	Isolation arrangements to respond to individual circumstances and as per policy.	Isolation arrangements to respond to individual circumstances and as per policy.	Isolation arrangements to respond to individual circumstances and as per policy.	Isolation arrangements to respond to individual circumstances and as per policy.

<sup>2</sup> IPC measures include: hand hygiene, wearing PPE, respiratory hygiene, cleaning of the environment

<sup>3</sup> Additional funding has been made available to support homes to put in place measures to facilitate visiting during the pandemic

## **Appendix 2**

**There are key roles for all in facilitating the return to normalised safe visiting and the role of each stakeholder is outlined below**

### **THE ROLE OF RESIDENTS' RELATIVES/VISITORS**

Family and friends of residents should be aware of the benefits of visiting their loved ones, but also be aware of the challenges which care homes, as distinct from other health and care settings, face in safeguarding all residents from infection. The restriction of visitors to care homes has been a key strategic component of managing the pandemic and it was introduced to protect residents, their families and staff by reducing the risk of infection.

Families/friends intending to visit must help ensure their loved ones remain safe, by:

- Staying at Home, if symptomatic
- Arranging visits in advance, and notifying the care home of any changes
- Face coverings – and any other necessary PPE, should be worn as appropriate
- Engaging with the care home – you are partners in care and should work together for the good of your loved one.

It is crucially important, therefore, that visitors make themselves aware of the restrictions which apply to the visiting of their loved one, and work together with the care home and the statutory agencies to ensure that they can safely engage in meaningful visiting while ensuring that the risk to their loved one and others in the care home is minimised as far as possible.

### **THE ROLE OF CARE HOMES**

Care homes have worked together with families and statutory agencies to make care homes and visiting as safe as possible, and to support continued contact between residents and their loved ones.

Care home staff have worked tirelessly throughout the pandemic to support continued contact between residents and their loved ones within the limits of the applicable guidelines, but these restrictions have been hugely challenging for residents and their loved ones, as well as for care home staff and colleagues.