

TWO PEOPLE VISITATION CHANGES QANDA

Q: What has changed?

A: A maximum of two adults (and their dependent children) will be allowed to visit another household from 1 May, 2020.

Q: Why is this change being made?

A: As the number of new cases of COVID-19 has reduced markedly, we are easing restrictions to reduce social isolation and improve mental health. When visiting another household, social distancing and good personal hygiene must be practised, including thoroughly washing your hands with soap when you arrive.

Q: Does this apply to everyone?

A: Yes. However, you should not leave your home if you have even the mildest symptoms such as tiredness or a sore throat. You should also have a conversation with the people you are visiting to ensure they do not have symptoms.

Q: Does this mean we can now have a party at home?

A: No. Only two adults and their children may visit another household.

Q: Can you now have a friend over for lunch?

A: Yes, so long as social distancing and good personal hygiene are practised at all times. When visiting private residences, visitors are encouraged to meet outdoors where possible.

Q: Can the two people visiting be from separate households?

A: Yes.

Q: Can multiple households come together under the new changes?

A: So long as there are only a maximum of two adults and their children visiting another household.

Q: What is the advice for people visiting those over 70 or people with a pre-existing condition?

A: Extra care should be taken when visiting those over 70 or those with a pre-existing condition. Maintain a physical distance of more than 1.5m wherever possible and consider using the available outdoor areas such as the backyard or veranda when visiting someone's home. Above all, do not visit even if you have the mildest symptoms.

Q: Do the changes impact the rules concerning visits to residential aged care facilities?

A: There has been no change to the rules concerning care and support visits to residential aged care facilities. A maximum of 2 people per day can visit a resident of a residential aged care facility together for a period no longer than 2 hours for the purpose of providing care and support to the resident. You cannot visit a residential aged care facility if you have not been vaccinated against influenza (if the vaccine is available to you), have been in contact with a person COVID-19, have symptoms, or have been overseas in the last 2 weeks.

Q: Is there a limit on how far you are allowed to travel to visit another person? Could someone from Sydney travel to regional NSW?

A: There is no limit on the distance that a person may travel to visit another household, so long as it is only two adults and their children visiting one other household. Travelling for the purpose of a holiday is not allowed.

Q: Are you allowed to stay the night at someone's home?

A: Overnight stays are not prohibited. However, taking a holiday in NSW is not allowed.

Q: Are there any limits to how many visitors you can have over per day? Can you have two people visiting in the morning and another two at night?

A: There is no daily limit to home visitors, just a limit on how many people can visit you at home at any one time. If you are over 70 or have a pre-existing medical condition, you should limit the number of visitors and take care at all times. There continue to be limits to how many visitors residents of an aged care facility can have per day.

Q: Do the gathering limits still apply in public places (outside the home)?

A: Yes. The two-person gathering limit still applies to public places. Members of the same household may still go outdoors together.