

## COVID-19 ADVISORY FOR VISITORS TO MWS CENTRES As at 22 November 2021

To better protect the unvaccinated who are at higher risk of infection and severe illness, the Multi-Ministry Taskforce has introduced Vaccination-Differentiated Safe Management Measures (VDS) in Residential Care Facilities.

At Methodist Welfare Services (MWS), in-person visits only for fully vaccinated persons (i.e. both the resident and the visitor must be fully vaccinated) to MWS Bethany Nursing Home - Choa Chua Kang will resume on 22 November 2021.

All visitations to MWS Christalite Methodist Home and MWS Nursing Home - Yew Tee remain suspended till further notice.

Exceptions for visitations will be

- Granted on compassionate basis (e.g., for critically ill residents) with the necessary safe management measures in place.
- Considered for residents who have received at least one dose of an approved COVID-19 vaccine if the Visitor is fully vaccinated, and if the visit is deemed necessary.

### Testing Before Visits

Visitors need to produce a verifiable, negative Antigen Rapid Test result obtained within 24 hours before the visit. Unsupervised self-swab offsite (e.g. at Visitor's home) is allowed for fully vaccinated Visitors.

## Swab Before Visiting Other MWS Centres

In line with the Multi-Ministry Taskforce's visitor management guidelines, Visitors to other MWS Centres must continue to test for COVID-19 using the Antigen Rapid Tests (ARTs)\* before visiting.

Only Visitors with a negative test result may enter our Centre (subject to other prevailing safe management measures).

In some MWS Centres, Visitors may need to self-administer the ART, under supervision. As the entire process up till the time result is known, may take approximately 30 mins, Visitors are advised to arrive 30 mins before their scheduled visit for ART testing.

The ART result has a validity of 24 hours, so Visitors may re-enter the MWS Centre if the visit occurs within 24 hours of a negative test result.

MWS may ask the Visitor to take another ART if we are unable to reliably confirm that the visitor has a valid negative test result.

**As there are limits to the maximum number of visitors our Centres may receive, please contact the individual MWS Centre for Visiting Hours before making a trip.**

*\*Note: Visitors with the following medical conditions should not undergo ART testing and will not be able to visit our Centre during the affected period.*

- *Nosebleed (in the past 24 hours)*
- *Facial surgery (in the last 8 weeks)*
- *Nasal surgery (in the last 4 weeks)*

**Please note that Visitors will not be allowed to enter if you have been:**

- notified to be PCR positive
- tested ART positive or
- issued a Health Risk Warning (HRW) after being identified by MOH as close contacts of an infected person

### Limit on Number of Visitors

In addition, we will continue to control the number of visitors at all MWS Centres:

- All large group volunteering and activities remain suspended.
- Volunteers who volunteer at multiple locations must not enter.

Nursing Homes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In-person visits are allowed <u>for fully vaccinated persons</u> (i.e. both the resident and the visitor must be fully vaccinated), under these conditions:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Each resident is allowed up to 4 designated fully vaccinated visitors</li> <li>• Each resident is allowed 1 designated visitor</li> <li>• Each visit is capped at 30 minutes</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Vendors who provide <u>non-essential</u> deliveries/maintenance works that require access into the wards will not be able to enter.</li> <li>• Vendors who run essential maintenance services that require access into the wards may enter but will be subject to additional requirements.</li> <li>• Vendors may drop off deliveries at designated 'drop-off' points outside the Centre.</li> </ul>
Welfare Home	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All in-person visitations are suspended till further notice.</li> <li>• Vendors may drop off deliveries at designated 'drop-off' points outside the Centre.</li> </ul>
Girls' Residence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Up to 2 designated visitors are allowed per resident (subject to the above conditions).</li> <li>• Only 1 designated visitor is allowed per resident per visit, up to 30 mins per visit, and by appointment only.</li> <li>• Only volunteers who lead activities that cannot be conducted remotely and have direct impact on the well-being/hygiene of residents may enter (subject to the above conditions), limited to 2 persons within the Centre at any one time.</li> <li>• Vendors who run essential/maintenance services for our residents may enter (subject to the above conditions).</li> <li>• Vendors may drop off deliveries at designated 'drop-off' points outside the Centre.</li> </ul>
Senior Activity Centres	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Only members and regular volunteers may enter and by appointment only (subject to the above conditions).</li> <li>• Vaccination Differentiated Safe Management Measures will be in place at the centres from 1st October 2021</li> <li>• Up to 5 volunteers are allowed at any one time.</li> <li>• Each volunteer can serve for up to only 2 hours per day.</li> <li>• Group activities are suspended till 24 October 2021.</li> <li>• The gym is closed till further notice.</li> </ul>

Family Service Centres	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Only clients assessed to have moderate to high needs may enter (subject to the above conditions), and by appointment only, and will be served on an individual basis.</li> <li>• Group work/activities are suspended until further notice to limit social mixing across different households.</li> <li>• Service for others will be delivered remotely (via phone calls, emails, video calls) as far as possible.</li> </ul>
Student Care Centre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All parents, including parents of newly enrolled children, may not enter the Centre.</li> <li>• Any child who is not enrolled in the Centre must not enter the premise during operating hours.</li> <li>• Only visitors who are needed to support the running of the Centre (eg. contractors) and those who need to perform necessary functions (eg. MSF officers) may enter.</li> </ul>

### **TraceTogether-SafeEntry**

All visitors must use the TraceTogether App on their mobile phones or TraceTogether token to check into SafeEntry and at all times while in the Centres. Visitors will be screened for travel and health history.

### **Masks & Hand Sanitisation**

All visitors must

- wear a surgical / reusable mask at all times
- wash / sanitise hands before and after each visit
- maintain a safe distance (at least 1 metre) at all times

**All these measures must be adhered to, regardless of one's COVID-19 vaccination status, or whether they are recovered cases.**

**Under the Infectious Diseases Act,  
anyone making a false declaration can be prosecuted**

For clarifications, please contact the MWS Centre you wish to visit. Thank you.

**Issued by  
Methodist Welfare Services  
22 November 2021**