



## Community Update COVID-19 as of Wednesday 12 January 2022

This update is provided to keep our community informed during the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Thank you for your continued vigilance and support during this time. If there is information you would like to see included in this update or in other ways and by other means, please let us know at [info@beechworthhealth.org.au](mailto:info@beechworthhealth.org.au)**

If you have concerns about your health, contact your Doctor or call the Coronavirus hotline on 1800 675 398.

**You can work with us to minimise transmissions by keeping up to date with information provided at**

1. [www.health.gov.au](http://www.health.gov.au)
2. [www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/coronavirus](http://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/coronavirus)

**MARK ASHCROFT – CEO**

### **Current COVID-19 safe guidelines in place at BHS until further notice.**

THEME	STATUS
Face Masks	Properly fitting face masks are mandatory for all health care workers and all visitors at all times (also refer to visitor theme below).
PPE	All staff at BHS are currently wearing Tier 3 PPE and includes properly fitted P2/N95 face masks, eye protection and gowns for all resident and patient contact and in all clinical areas.  Please use PPE as directed by staff.  BHS staff continue to follow the current guidelines for the use of PPE for all patient, resident, and client contact.
BHS Entry Process	Entry to BHS site is currently restricted.  All entry is clearly identified by signage to direct staff to specific areas. Staff and essential contractors are currently only permitted.  Let us know <b>you are here</b>  <b>Step 1.</b> Please let us know <b>you have arrived</b> at BHS by way of the State Services Vic QR check-in code, located at entry points to BHS and its outreach program areas  <b>Step 2.</b> Please let us know <b>you are well</b> by way of the SAVR QR check-in code, also located at entry points to BHS and its outreach program areas



	<p><b>NOTE:</b> If you do not have a smart phone, please use sign-in manually and to declare that you are well, at one of our check-in kiosks, located at entry points to BHS and its outreach program areas (see visitor section below for further detail)</p>
<b>Visitors</b>	<p>Visitors are restricted to end of life care only. Please discuss any personal arrangements with BHS.</p> <p>For end of life visitors permitted, all must comply to visiting hospital and aged care guidelines and must return a negative RAT test and complete a pre-attendance risk assessment. PPE is to be worn as directed by staff. <a href="https://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/sites/default/files/2022-01/New_COVIDSafe_settings.pdf">https://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/sites/default/files/2022-01/New_COVIDSafe_settings.pdf</a></p> <p>For end-of-life visits, two visitors are permitted at a time with no maximum daily limit.</p> <p><b>It is strongly recommended that all visitors be fully COVID-19 vaccinated.</b></p> <p>Visitor guidelines for BHS have been reviewed in conjunction with the relevant Residential Aged Care guidelines. These guidelines are continually reviewed in accordance with these guidelines and regional cases and exposure of COVID-19.</p> <p>Prospective residents are currently not permitted and these visitation guidelines are in place as per Department of Health and the local Public Health Unit directions. Any prospective residents will be notified when they are permitted to attend the health service.</p>
<b>Specialist AND Allied Health Outpatient Consulting</b>	<p>On site appointments are currently on hold.</p> <p>Staff will make contact with clients and make any necessary arrangements for ongoing care.</p>
<b>BHS COVID-19 Vaccination hub - Bantik House</b>	<p>BHS's Bantik House COVID-19 vaccination hub is currently open on Thursdays 9.00am to 4.30pm and is subject to demand. Please refer to BHS Facebook page and information listed on the information board at the entrance to Bantik House – 58 Sydney Road). This vaccination clinic operates on an appointment and walk ins are welcome where appointments are available.</p> <p>To make a booking please phone <b>COVID-19 hotline on 1800 675 398</b></p> <p>Or use the <b>online booking system:</b> <a href="https://portal.cvms.vic.gov.au/">https://portal.cvms.vic.gov.au/</a></p>
<b>BHS COVID-19 Screening clinic</b>	<p>BHS is providing a testing clinic <b>on Wednesdays 8.00 am to 12 noon</b> and is subject to change due to demand on the service and staffing</p>



	availability. Any changes to this will be listed on the board at the entrance to Bantik House and BHS Facebook page.
<b>Club Connection</b>	Club Connection is currently on hold and will resume services in 2022 within COVID-19 Safety Guidelines. Staff continue to be in contact with participants to make arrangements or changes to the service if required.
<b>Resident Lifestyle</b>	<p>Communal resident activities are currently on hold. Lifestyle team are working with residents during this period.</p> <p>We are committed to reviewing and enhancing our lifestyle program for patients and residents in discussion with them as we go.</p>
<b>Hairdresser (RAC)</b>	Hairdressing, beauty, personal care: On hold.
<b>Volunteer Programs</b>	<p>Volunteer programs are planning to resume gradually in 2022 and will do so in line with the current COVID-19 safe guidelines. Staff will contact Volunteers directly to confirm arrangements.</p> <p>All volunteers will need to provide a copy of their vaccination certificate to the Volunteer Coordinator prior to recommencement of services.</p>
<b>Respite Care</b>	Carer stress is recognised in the current environment, BHS has processes in place to provide respite care. Please talk to us about your circumstances.
<b>BHS Kiosk</b>	BHS Kiosk is currently closed.
<b>Community Support</b>	<p>Meals and financial support are available via Quercus - call 0408 845 966</p> <p>Indigo Shire Pandemic Coordination Team can assist with community issues, contact 1300365003.</p> <p>Quercus Beechworth are providing a free BE Connected program for people aged over 50 to assist people to get connected online.</p> <p>Upper Murray Family Care provide programs to support people experiencing financial disadvantage and vulnerabilities visit: <a href="http://www.umfc.com.au">www.umfc.com.au</a></p>
<b>Dementia Support</b>	Changing Minds Carer Support group meetings are resuming. If you would like to access this please contact BHS on 03 5728 0200. For any additional information please email the group on <a href="mailto:changingmindsbeechworth@gmail.com">changingmindsbeechworth@gmail.com</a> Support is available from the <b>National Dementia Helpline</b> on 1800 100 500