

# Coronavirus (Covid-19)

## ES47 - Guidance for Family Visitors



All current Coronavirus policies and procedures apply across the Piper Group and ENABLE Scotland.

We are in this together. Keeping your loved ones safe and healthy is as much our priority as it is yours.

At this time, we understand that family members will be very anxious about the wellbeing of the people we support, and it is natural that they will want to maintain contact and may even want to visit. Until recently Scottish and UK Government Guidance was for everyone to stay at home, and not to visit relatives. We know its been hard for families.

Phase 2 of the Scottish Governments Route Map will allow limited contact with other households, the number of households and visitors allowed to visit will depend on whether the Person We Support is in the High Risk, Vulnerable category or not.

Due to local lockdown measures in place, these arrangements do not currently apply in the following Local Authority areas, Glasgow, West Dunbartonshire and East Renfrewshire. Please see the additional Guidance in ES-47.1.

### Not in High Risk Category

The limit on the number of people who can meet up has been changed, you can now meet a maximum of six people from up to two households indoors or outdoors. It is not required to count children under 12, from within the two households. This applies to people's homes and gardens as well as hospitality and public spaces. You should still maintain the existing 2 metres physical distancing between households. If unable to maintain the 2 metre distance then appropriate PPE must be worn.

Visitors to your garden can now use indoor toilets during the visit, but strict hand washing and cleaning/disinfecting guidelines must be followed after each use.

### High Risk Category

The limit on the number of people who can meet up has been changed in all categories, you can now meet a maximum of six people from up to two households indoors or outdoors. It is not required to count children under 12, from within the two households. This applies to people's homes and gardens as well as hospitality and public spaces.

The Social distancing of two metres should be maintained by each household when possible. If not possible appropriate PPE must be worn. Indoor toilets cannot be used in this scenario.

### In the NHS

If your loved one who has a learning disability is in hospital, you are permitted to visit them if it would cause them more distress not to have you there. More information can be [found here](#).

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### In social care settings

The latest Scottish Government Guidance (found [here](#)) is clear that people “who access care and support may be considered at risk even if they are under 70 due to underlying health conditions including anyone given the flu vaccination each year on medical grounds. Therefore, social distancing measures should be applied to reduce social contact to all but essential contacts from staff and family/ friends.

For family / friends providing essential care/support, it is recommended that up to a maximum of two people from the same household can visit at the one time to provide essential care and where possible maintain a physical distance of two metres.

Where someone is a single householder or living on their own then a “Support Bubble” can be accommodated, by a family member or a close friend. This person can visit indoors and is permitted to stay overnight.

Someone who lives alone or who lives only with children under 18 can form an extended household with another household. You can visit this household indoors and stay over.

Any visitors should stay away if they have any respiratory symptoms. Staff and other visitors should follow all hand washing advice and PPE guidelines. In all cases, if you have symptoms, or if anyone in your household has symptoms – you must stay at home.

Our advice to families is to make staff aware of any visits you wish to make so that they can prepare the outside area and any appropriate PPE if necessary. Our priority is keeping your loved one safe and well, and to prevent any risk of them contracting coronavirus. We need our staff to stay well and healthy too, to make sure that they can keep on providing the care and support to the person you love.

We are in this together, we will do everything we can to help you to keep in touch – telephone calls, video calls, and photographs. We wouldn't ask if we didn't need to – if you can, stay at home to protect your loved one from risk, and to protect our ability to keep caring. The more we do this, the sooner we can all be back together.

### Thank you for support.

#### References:

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-clinical-guidance-care-at-home-housing-support-and-sheltered-housing/pages/2-anticipation-and-prevention-of-covid-19/>

<https://www.enable.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/NHS-Scotland-Guidance-on-Visiting-Patients-who-Have-a-Learning-Disability-in-Hospital.pdf>

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