

Visiting people who receive care in their homes

February 2021

It is currently advised to avoid visiting other people's homes to reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission. This is particularly important when someone is at higher risk regarding COVID-19, which includes many who receive care in their homes. Their age or medical condition may mean they are more likely to be severely ill or face a higher risk of dying if they catch COVID-19.

If you are visiting them in their home, you must take care and help protect them for COVID-19.

Who is at risk?

Islanders who are at high risk because of a medical condition have been sent a letter by their GP or specialist doctor telling them they are at risk. In addition, everyone over the age of 70 is considered to be at high risk, whether or not they have received a letter from their GP.

People aged 60 to 69 and those with certain medical conditions (listed at www.gov.je/shielding) are considered to be at moderate risk.

Full guidance for those at high and moderate risk is available at gov.je/shielding or by phoning the Coronavirus Helpline for those who do not access the internet.

Visiting the homes of those at high or moderate risk

All Islanders are strongly advised to avoid visiting people in their homes currently.

People who are at high or moderate risk are especially advised to avoid mixing indoors and receiving visitors from those outside their household, unless this is for the purpose of receiving care or other essential services.

If you are visiting, you must carefully follow public health information and advice, such as washing your hands frequently especially on entering their home and stay 2 metres apart wherever possible.

It is also recommended that visitors wear a mask during their visit, and most importantly in any instances where two metres distance cannot be maintained.

You must not visit if you are displaying Coronavirus symptoms (these can be found on gov.je or asking the Coronavirus Helpline staff). If you have symptoms and are unable to visit but are concerned about someone, seek support from their care provider or the *Connect Me* service (details below)

Vaccination

People at high and moderate risk, and home care staff, are eligible to receive a COVID-19 vaccine in the first phase of Jersey's vaccination programme. It is strongly recommended that those who are eligible are vaccinated as soon as possible, as this will help protect the most at risk from serious illness.

Information on when and how to book a vaccine can be found at gov.je/vaccine or by phoning the Coronavirus Helpline on the number below.

The COVID-19 vaccine offers a good level of protection to those who have been fully vaccinated (fully vaccinated means having two weeks since a second dose). However, the vaccine does not prevent illness from COVID-19 in every case, and it is likely that it only prevents about two-thirds of the onwards spread of infection to others. It is therefore vital that we continue to carefully follow public health guidance and protect all those at higher risk.

Information, support and guidance

- Government of Jersey website: Gov.je
- Coronavirus Helpline: 01534 445566 or 0800 735 5566 (free phone number).
- Connect Me: Gov.je/connectme (or phone the Coronavirus Helpline, or your Parish Hall, and ask for 'Connect Me').