

11 March 2020

Dear Residents and Families,

I write to you again regarding the Coronavirus or COVID-19 virus.

Thank you for the positive response to the precautions we implemented, including:

- Staff members or contractors that have returned from any overseas travel excluding themselves from the Village for 14 days.
- Residents of the Village that have travelled overseas isolating themselves for a 14 day period.

We continue to monitor the changing nature of this virus and not surprisingly, the virus continues to spread and we should expect to see this continue. Therefore, we all need to remind ourselves of the sensible precautions that we all need to adhere to, including:

- avoiding crowds and mass gatherings where it is difficult to keep the appropriate distance away from others;
- avoiding small gatherings in enclosed spaces, for example family celebrations;
- attempting to keep a distance of 1.5 meters between themselves and other people where possible, for example when they are out and about in public places;
- avoiding shaking hands, hugging, or kissing other people;
- **WASH YOUR HANDS!**

If you or someone you know is unwell and showing signs and symptoms they need to self-isolate for at least 14 days or until cleared by a medical practitioner. The signs and symptoms that we need to look out for include:

- a cough;
- runny nose;
- malaise and fatigue, and
- fever

In addition, I ask that you avoid visiting people in the aged care service unless you really need to as we know that elderly patients develop viral pneumonia which makes them more prone to fatality. We also now need to add some additional precautions, including:

- Closing all gates to the village, minimising unnecessary entry by the public (pin code access will open the gates);
- Increased hand sanitiser stations at building entrances, encouraging everyone to sanitise and wash their hands.

Enquiries & Administration

T: 02 6582 8923 F: 02 6584 5062 E: admin@gardenvillage.com.au www.gardenvillage.com.au All donations over \$2 are tax deductible

- Increased observation of people entering our buildings which we hope will give us an opportunity to note whether anyone appears unwell, and also to be able to remind them to wash, or gel their hands before entering.

We continue to make these decisions and changes as sensible precautions, noting the 430 aged residents living within the Garden Village Community, and the ongoing advice from the Department of Health and Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission.

We are here to support our community and I encourage you to contact myself or Libby Harpley, Director of Care with any concerns or questions on Ph 6582 8923.

Yours sincerely,



Craig Wearne
Chief Executive Officer