

Wednesday 6 January 2021

## RE: MDS Community Inclusion and Support (Day Program) Risk Strategies (COVID-19)

Your health and wellbeing is important to us. In order to maintain your safety we continually monitor and implement NSW Health advice and directives.

NSW Health have updated their advice to disability services following recent outbreaks of COVID-19. You will be familiar with many of the recommendations, which we have maintained throughout the pandemic. These precautions include:

- All staff wear a surgical mask,
- If you would like, MDS will provide a mask to you whilst attending program,
- We conduct temperature checks on all staff and participants prior to entering a service. Any person who is 37.5 degrees or above will not attend the service,
- Anyone who presents unwell is asked to returned home and seek medical assistance. We also recommend staff and participants seek a COVID-19 test if they present with a fever or respiratory symptoms, even if the symptoms are mild,
- All staff and participants have access to alcohol hand sanitiser and regularly wash their hands,
- We have all necessary Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and staff adhere to strict PPE guidelines,
- Staff conduct hourly cleaning within the sites and take out sanitisation pack when visiting approved community venues,
- As an alternative to your regular service you can request 1:1 support. If you require in-home 1:1 support, we conduct a thorough risk assessment prior to delivering service,
- Staff and participants who have visited any locations linked to a COVID-19 outbreak will not be permitted to enter MDS services and asked to follow NSW Health advice. We request you regularly review the full list of locations and instructions via <https://www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/latest-news-and-updates#latest-covid-19-case-locations-in-nsw> and <https://www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/latest-news-and-updates#cases-on-public-transport-routes>),
- Our staff have completed COVID-19 specific infection control online training.

Additional NSW Health recommendations we will implement include:

- ensuring non-essential visitors do not enter MDS sites until further notice,
- people who have a phone will be asked to use our Service NSW QR code when entering and leaving the premises. If you do not have a phone available we will continue to sign you in and out using our existing forms,
- Group programs will not be attending indoor venues in the community until further notice.

If you have any questions regarding your services at MDS, please contact your service coordinator directly and/or our Head Office on 4621 8400

Kind Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark Donachie', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Mark Donachie  
General Manager Community Inclusion and Support