

6 October 2020

## **ADDITIONAL PRECAUTIONARY MEASURES NOW IN PLACE AT UNITING AGEWELL PRESTON COMMUNITY**

This afternoon, Tuesday 6 October, we were informed that a member of staff has tested positive to COVID-19. The staff member is in home isolation.

The staff member, who works in the Lumeah wing in a care role, last worked on Saturday afternoon, 3 October and became unwell on Sunday. Their previous shift was on 27 September. Like all staff, the staff member was wearing a mask and face shield while working. Six staff members who worked with the staff member on Saturday have been told to isolate and get tested as a precaution.

We have implemented our COVID-19 infection control and management response and notified the Victorian Department of Health & Human Services Public Health Unit (PHU) and the Department of Health. The following additional precautionary measures are now in place:

- A deep clean of the Lumeah wing and common areas with extra hygiene cleans to continue
- All residents in the Lumeah wing are being supported to remain in their rooms
- All staff are wearing full PPE
- Extra staff have been allocated to support residents and monitoring residents' health and wellbeing very closely
- The facility is closed to all visitors

These additional infection control measures will remain in place until test results are known and a minimum period of 14 days.

Clearly this is unsettling news and you will be understandably concerned and anxious. Please be assured we are responding in line with all protocols and the steps completed and underway are precautionary.

There are no residents or other rostered staff who are unwell at this time. All residents and staff will be tested as soon as possible, with testing arrangements to be confirmed by the PHU.

The Preston team is fully across what needs to be done and additional support is being provided by Uniting AgeWell's senior response team.

As always, our total focus is on keeping everyone in the Preston Community safe and well.

Residential Services Manager, Prudence Hart or a member of her senior care team, will personally call each resident's family representative during the course of today and we will continue to keep you informed.

Thank you for your support and understanding.

Yours sincerely



**Fonda Voukelatos**  
**Acting Chief Executive Officer**  
**Uniting AgeWell**