

# COVID-19 Statement

## Lockdown

Residents and staff received their first vaccination on 9<sup>th</sup> January 2021.

We made a difficult decision to go into lockdown on 6<sup>th</sup> March 2020, two weeks before the government's decision was announced. This decision was not taken lightly but was made to keep everyone safe. We know it is difficult for residents and families, however putting everyone's safety first is, and always will be, our priority. We strongly believe that this decision along with our excellent committed staff aided us in remaining COVID free throughout.



As we have not been able to have outside entertainment visit us, staff have worked hard to keep smiles on everyone's faces and we will continue to do so until we are ready to welcome everyone back. Please check out our gallery to see what we have been up to.

## Community Support

We are very lucky to live in a community of generous people, who at the beginning of the pandemic donated some wonderful gifts.

Local children drew pictures, wrote letters and sent in gifts for the residents which had a real impact on the residents. Some lasting friendships were formed between children and residents who still write to each other.

One man donated a whole Sunday meal for each resident and another local man donated visors which he had made. Ladies of Edenbridge donated scrubs for the staff, which had all been hand made.

The support from local people has been at times overwhelming.



## PPE (Personal Protective Equipment)

We are, and always have been, very well stocked as we are able to acquire sufficient masks, aprons, gloves and hand sanitizers for all staff from a government care package.

It has become the norm now to wear a mask and staff have customised their scrubs to add a little joy for residents.



## Testing

We are testing our staff weekly and our residents every two weeks, this is working well to help ensure everyone is safe alongside our isolation policy. We are accepting new residents to Stanholm, who are subject to a 14 day isolation period, and are welcomed and appointed a key care staff to ensure they settle well.

We also have lateral fast flow testing kits which means we get results within 30 minutes, and will be of great importance once visiting resumes.

## What does the future hold?

This is a question we all ask, and hope that visiting will commence again very soon, subject to government policy and guidelines.

Last summer we had garden visits under the new gazebos, then moved visits inside to the new visitors lounge when the weather got cold.

Safety has been our priority during visiting and strict guidelines were followed.

