An Roinn Leanaí, Comhionannais, Míchumais, Lánpháirtíochta agus Óige Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth



Covid Related Guidelines for IPAS Accommodation Centres 17 May 2021

Please note that this notice supersedes the previously circulated IPAS Living with Covid Plan with immediate effect.

Visits by organisations, companies and persons providing services to IPAS Centre management

IPAS Staff and other State Services, general service providers, onsite childcare, cleaning and maintenance staff, utility supply workers etc. permitted in line with Government restrictions.

All service providers subject to contact tracing recording and observance of social distancing and proper hygiene.

General Visitors and Organisations providing services to Centre Residents

Permitted in line with current Government guidelines:

Maximum of 3 households or 6 people from any number of households may meet in a designated suitable **outdoor** space at the centre.

A representative of an advocacy group/ legal representative visiting an individual resident is permitted, in line with current guidelines.

Friends of Centre Meetings that take place will remain remote.

All visitors must book in advance, leave details for contact tracing, observe proper hygiene and follow social distancing measures in place at the centre.

General overnight absences

It is permitted to be away from the centre for two consecutive nights only with specific conditions. No quarantine required on return if conditions met.

Specific conditions of overnight absences include a requirement for residents to notify centre staff as to where they will be staying, providing contact details, downloading the COVID

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tracing app, and agreeing to comply with any guidance and instructions from public health where a resident is found to be a close contact of a positive case.

Unless they have received express permission from IPAS, any resident absent from the centre longer then the period allowed will be required to reapply to IPAS for new accommodation for themselves and their family and will be required to quarantine for 14 days.

Overnight absence for medical reasons

Overnight absences for medical care in a recognised medical facility are permitted with no limit on number of nights. No quarantine required on return.

Transfers

Subject to the availability of suitable alternative accommodation, transfers can be made to and from all centres where no current outbreak exists. No quarantine required. Any resident may contact IPAS to make a request for a transfer.

Transfers to and from centres with COVID outbreak (2 or more active cases) are not permitted- except in urgent cases and subject to agreement with relevant Public Health officials.

Re-accommodation Requests

Subject to 14 days quarantine and only to centres free from COVID.

ENDS