SOCIALLY DISTANCED VISITORS AGREEMENT

CARE HOME:

Over the last few months our Care Home Teams have been working incredibly hard to reduce the impact of the coronavirus in our Homes. It is therefore essential that we continue with these efforts to ensure we function in a safe and effective way to reduce the risk of infection transmission to our residents, relatives, and our Care Home Teams. We must ensure that we work together to adhere to the new 'social-distancing' visiting arrangements that we are implementing, as set out in this agreement.

Please carefully read this visitors agreement and ensure that you become familiar with the steps we are putting in place during these unprecedented times. **A signed copy of this agreement must be received** by the Care Home prior to your visit.

We ask that when signing to agree these new visiting arrangements that you are mindful that this is new to all of us and some arrangements may not go to plan, but we will do our utmost to learn from this and make any necessary changes to enable these visits to remain in place, as we appreciate the importance of family and friend visits.

We must also be clear that we will continue to follow robust infection control measures which are in line with Government and Public Health England advice. This does include regularly risk assessing throughout each day, which could result in these new visiting arrangements stopping during your visiting session or just before. We hereby apologise in advance but please be assured if such measures are implemented it is in order to keep everyone as safe as possible.

To ensure safety, we are implementing visiting phases. The first phase is for visits to take place outdoors in our garden area. We recognise that this will be difficult for some families and friends to see loved ones, but we believe it is vital in order to protect everyone.

Phase One Visit Guidelines:

1. The Care Home has been free from outbreak for 28 days or longer.

2. If the visitor has pre-existing health needs, they are advised to contact their GP in the first instance before visiting the Care Home.

3. Outdoor visiting sessions to take place in the garden of the Care Home.

4. Visits will need to be pre-booked directly with the Care Home to enable us to manage the safety of our residents, staff and visitors by limiting the volume of people through the Home at any one time, as well as supporting additional cleaning required between visits.

5. Visits will be limited to a maximum of 30 minutes duration.

6. Only two family members or friends will be allowed per visit and children (under 16 years of age) will not be allowed at this point in time.

7. Please arrive at the Care Home 15 minutes prior to your visit to allow time for a temperature check, completion of health questionnaire, hand sanitising and putting on your face mask in the designated area.

8. Visitors will be required to sanitise their hands using alcohol gel provided and will also need to wear a face mask for the duration of their visit. Face masks can be provided if you are unable to bring your own.

9. You will be asked some health screening questions at the start of your visit and will have your temperature taken. If you are showing any symptoms which could indicate coronavirus, please do not travel to the Care Home as we will need to decline entry. As you will be aware, these symptoms include a raised temperature, a new and persistent cough, a loss of taste or smell and a general feeling of being lethargic and unwell.

10. In addition, a Care Home Team member will escort you to the relevant visitor area and back again.

11. Social distancing measures will remain in effect, which means a no touch approach during visits. This extends to hugging, hand-holding or kissing.

12. Visitors will not be able to use facilities such as toilets (unless for emergencies), and unfortunately, we are unable to provide refreshments at this time.

13. We will undertake regular risk assessments throughout the day, which could result in additional measures being implemented at short notice which could include visit restrictions being applied.

14. Management reserves the right to ask visitors who do not follow these safety measures to leave. This is to protect the health and safety of every resident and the Care Home Team at the Care Home.

15. It may not always be possible to facilitate every visit you request. Visits will be allocated fairly to ensure all residents have equal opportunity for social contact with their loved ones.

16. At the end of your visit please dispose of your PPE in the clinical waste bin in the PPE area and sanitise your hands.

17. Visitors are advised to wash their clothes they have worn for the visit on returning home on a short 60-degree wash cycle.

18. Future changes in visiting procedures may be required in response to Government guidance.

I declare that I have read and understood the social distancing visiting procedure for this Care Home and will follow the procedures in place.

Print Name…….

Sign…….. ***Date……***