



Message from the CEO – Bernice Smith

Updated 13th February 2023

Goldbridge Rehabilitation Services (Goldbridge) is based in Southport on the Gold Coast, Queensland. Goldbridge, along with other organisations, is facing a unique situation with delivering services during the Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic. As per government public health announcements, Goldbridge has incorporated changes into all our programs to help slow the impact of this virus. Goldbridge will continue to adjust our program delivery as required. Please see update below:

- As of 1st February 2023, masks are no longer required. All staff, volunteers, students, visitors and clients will no longer need to wear masks at any Goldbridge facility. Queensland is now on the Green level of the COVID-19 Traffic Light system and there are no positive COVID cases at Goldbridge. Please note that if anyone has any flu like symptoms, they will need to wear a mask and get a Covid-19 Rapid Antigen Test. If the COVID-19 risk increases, then masks will be re-instated.
- When COVID is in program areas the following will apply:
 - Family visits to be supported via zoom sessions with extra phone calls during the week.
 - Residents who test positive to isolate in one of our two Isolation units on-site for the required period.
 - Other program activities will be adjusted for the required period.
 - Regular RAT testing to be undertaken.
 - Staff to be onsite and only access staff area.
 - Live-in Supervisors in separate Unit for resident support if required
 - Individual counselling sessions will be conducted by the Psychologist via zoom
 - Medical appointments undertaken via telehealth.
 - New admissions will reside in a transition Unit for a required period.
 - Hand sanitiser and social distancing are to continue wherever possible.
- 17th January 2022, Goldbridge had positive COVID-19 cases in the Treatment Centre. Isolation rooms were utilised to manage the situation and all clients are now well.
- 10th November 2022 Queensland entered a fourth COVID-19 Wave and the Queensland Government introduced a Traffic Light system to help reduce the risk of catching and spreading COVID-19. The traffic light level – red, amber or green – is based on the current level of risk in the community.
- In April 2022 Queensland COVID-19 positive case numbers were high – between 5,000 and 10,000 per day, therefore all family members needed to check with the centre before visiting to confirm process for visits.
- On the 5th January 2022: The Gold Coast LGA was identified as high risk within health care settings, therefore Goldbridge was on high level restrictions for Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).
- 17th December 2022: Goldbridge implemented the QLD Government policy that unvaccinated people will be unable to visit vulnerable settings as of 17/12/2021. This requirement has now changed, therefore unvaccinated visitors are allowed.
- 15th December 2022: The QLD Government announced that all authorised workers (in this instance workers in healthcare settings) must have the prescribed doses to be vaccinated against COVID-19. For further information, please see the link of the QH Directive: <https://www.health.qld.gov.au/system-governance/legislation/cho-public-health-directions-under-expanded-public-health-act-powers/workers-in-healthcare-setting> Therefore on the 15th November 2022, Goldbridge directed all Employees and Volunteers to have the prescribed doses of COVID-19 vaccine. This is still a requirement by Goldbridge.
- Goldbridge will continue to provide services to clients in both remote and f2f modalities.
- Telehealth appointments are being conducted by the Visiting Medical Officer (VMO) with support from the RN.

Our priority is to keep people safe through these unprecedented times. I have confidence that we can work together to continue to provide a flexible TC program. The Goldbridge Management Committee, staff team and volunteers are committed to upholding the Mission, Vision and Values of Goldbridge. If you or someone you know is interested in entering the program, please phone 5503 1255 or visit our website www.goldbridge.com.au