

Having Visitors – Mencap Guidance

This social story is to be read with, or by, people who live in a supported living, or registered service with other people.

This story is for people living in England, Wales or Northern Ireland.

Can I have Visitors?



COVID-19, or Coronavirus is a type of illness that makes people feel poorly.

Because of COVID-19 there have been lots of changes about how we live.



These changes help to keep everyone safe.



The Government has now changed the rules about meeting with people you don't live with.



What does this mean for me?

What this means for people is different depending on where you live.



There are some rules that mean you still can't have visitors.

You can't have visitors if:

You don't have a garden.



The only way to get to your garden is through the house.



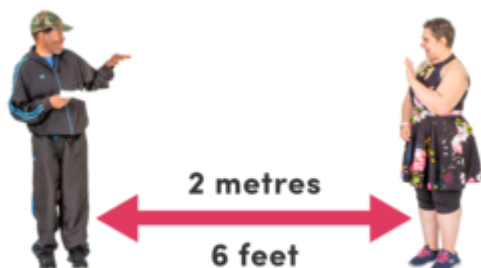
You can still go and meet your family or friends in a local park as long as you stay 2 metres away from them.



You can have visitors if:

You have a garden that has **outside access**.

Outside access means people can get into your garden **without** going through your house.



Your garden is big enough to allow social distancing. This means it's big enough for everyone to stay 2 metres away from each other.



If you are allowed visitors there are some rules you **must** follow:



You can have **up to 4** visitors.

This means that if you, your visitors and a support worker are in the garden there are **6** people.

The government says no more than **6** people can meet.



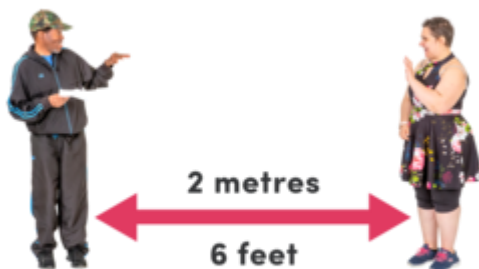
If there is not enough space for 4 visitors to stay 2 metres away you will have to have less visitors.



If you, or someone you live with is shielding then you will only be able to have 1 visitor.



Your visitors **must** stay in the garden at all times.



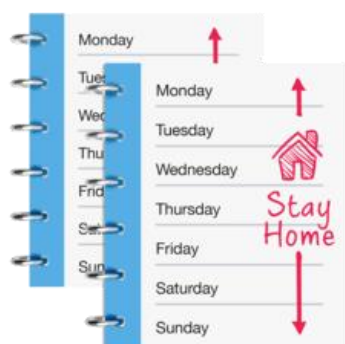
You **must** still stay 2 metres away from each other.



You **must not** hug, shake hands or touch your visitors.



Your friends and family must not come and visit if they have any symptoms of Coronavirus.



Your friends and family must not come and visit if they have been in contact with someone who has symptoms in the last 14 days.

This is because they will need to stay home for 14 days.



You should make sure that everything you might need is in the garden already so that you don't have to go back inside.



Your friends or family should bring their own drink, snacks and cutlery. They will not be able to use your cups, cutlery or plates.



You and your friends or family might be asked to wear a face mask or covering during their visit.



You must wash your hands before your visitors arrive **and** after they leave.



Anywhere that your visitors may have touched will need to be cleaned after they have left.



Wash anything that staff used, including cups and plates.



By doing these things you are helping
to keep people safe.

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