



Dear families and carers,

I would like to take this opportunity to provide families and carers with an update on the vaccination process that is being followed at McCall Gardens.

Since the beginning of the pandemic we have been closely monitoring and following directives from NSW Health. As mentioned in other communication this is sometimes different from the public health advice you will see on the news.

In mid 2020 we commenced discussions with staff about the vaccination to prepare the organisation in the event that it would be mandated for our sector. At that point the vaccine was not approved and there was much speculation and concern about the effects. Once the vaccine was available, McCall Gardens communicated to all staff and participants relevant information to assist them to make an informed decision.

We can confirm that all staff are following the instructions specific to the pandemic and have been provided with suitable PPE, training and support to ensure they are equipped to work safely.

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McCall Gardens has been proactive in supporting participants who live in our group homes with the vaccination process. We can confirm that 89% have received their first dose.

Where disability differs from aged care is that we are unable to enforce Influenza or COVID-19 vaccination for any member of staff. We are unable to provide any data that confirms the number of staff who have received either of these vaccines. We will be conducting a voluntary staff survey to assist us to understand our workforce views this further in the coming weeks.

We thank you for your ongoing support. If you have any questions please feel free to reach out to your Team Leader, Operations Manager - Belinda Reeves or CEO - Belinda Colombrita.

## CONTACT

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