



# Live-in Care

**Empowering Independence**  
*Preserving peace of mind*





### ***Welcome to Bluebird Care.***

*We hope that this guide will provide all of the information you need about our Live-in Care service.*

*If you would like to talk to us about any aspect of your care, please do contact us.*

***You can find our contact details on the back page of this guide.***

### **About Bluebird Care**

At Bluebird Care, we understand the importance of personalised care that respects the needs and preferences of you or your loved one, allowing them to remain in the comfort of their own home.

Our mission is simple: to provide exceptional care that empowers you or your loved one to live life on their terms, with dignity, comfort, and peace of mind.

With a commitment to excellence, compassion, and reliability, our team of skilled nurses and trained Care Assistants continually go above and beyond to deliver high quality care.

“

*It's knowing Mam can stay part of the community that she holds so dear*

”

**Jane**

Daughter of Bluebird Care Live-in Care Client





The types of support we offer can include:

- Starting your day
- Medication
- Mealtimes
- Social outings & hobbies
- Household chores
- Personal and specialist care
- Everyday admin & communications
- Health & wellbeing
- Bedtime routine & night care

## What is Live-in Care?

Our Live-in Care service encapsulates all of this. Live-in Care is the height of personalised support and is all about choice. The choice to continue living life with freedom, the choice to continue enjoying hobbies and activities, and the choice to create a routine of care that ensures all these things can happen.

The main difference with this service is that a Live-in Care Assistant will live in your home, on hand to deliver the support and care needed to safeguard your independence, keeping you at home for as long as you choose.

We strive to make a positive difference to the lives of all of our clients as we believe that everyone deserves to live life to the full, regardless of age, ability or circumstances. With a focus on professionalism, integrity, and empathy, we are honoured to be trusted with the care of those we serve, those that you love the most.

## Types of Live-in Care

Live-in Care is often long-term for those with ongoing care needs, who wish to remain in their own home. However, it can also be a short-term solution; maybe support is needed following a hospital stay, and additional support is required. Or maybe you yourself require some additional support or respite for a small period of time.

Our Live-in Blended Care also allows you to utilise HSE funding for your agreed support hours, through supplementing the HSE package by purchasing additional hours.

Whatever the situation, Live-in Care is designed, with your help, around your wishes. We can be there for as little or as long as you need us. Our Live-in Care service is all about providing the right care, at the right time and offering everyone a choice.

“ *It's knowing Dad has company and companionship, it's peace of mind for me and my family.* ”

**John**

Son of Bluebird Care Live-in Care Client



## Bluebird Care Live-in Care

Given the choice, most older persons living in Ireland express a strong preference for ageing gracefully within the comfort of their own homes, cherishing the familiarity and warmth of their local communities over the institutional environment of nursing homes or assisted living facilities.

However, numerous older persons require varying levels of care and assistance to navigate their daily routines.

Our Live-in Care Plans are designed to enable you to remain safely and securely in your own home, providing reassurance for both you and your loved one.

These plans are centred upon our person-centred care model, offering flexibility, with the option to access additional care hours through your local office for an additional fee.

## Why Choose Live-in Care

Our Live-In Care service offers security and confidence to stay at home as our Care Assistant will move into the home for a three to six month rotation with you or your loved one and will become part of your daily life.

This service provides:

- Quality care provided by a nurse-led team of Care Assistants
- Personalised one to one care on a 5, 6 or 7 day rotation on a schedule that works for you.
- A reassuring presence in the home ensuring peace of mind for all
- Flexibility and choice, you can design the care provided to align with your needs & lifestyle
- Building trusted relationships with a small team of Care Assistants supported by our local office team

- Consistency, the Care Assistant resides in the client's home and is on active duty for up to seven hours, six days each week. Our team of local Care Assistants provide a seamless transition on the seventh day, allowing your Live-in Care Assistant to enjoy a day off

*Family Involvement*

**Consistency**   *Flexibility*

**Personalised Care**

*Emotional Support*   **Safety**

*Nurse Led*   **Companionship**



“

*Live-in Care means I can stay connected to and part of my local community, keeping my independence, surrounded by the community I know and love*

”

**Mary**






Bluebird Care Live-in Care Client

## Live-in Care V Nursing Homes

Many people considering Live-in Care will also be looking at Nursing Homes and the difference between the two. Live-in Care is a real alternative and can have many physical and emotional benefits, especially when compared to life in a nursing home.

Outlined below are some of the biggest differences between the two options.

- Live-in Care
- Nursing Home

|  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| Continue to enjoy the comfort of own home, with the things that are familiar |    | A new environment with communal living areas            |
| Keep own routine, no need to change current lifestyle                        |   | A change in lifestyle, with regulated meal and bedtimes |
| Genuine one to one support   |  | 'One size fits all' approach                            |
| Live days independently  |  | Outings organised well in advance                       |
| Keep pets, attend to a cherished garden and of course enjoy companionship    |  | Pets may need re-homing                                 |





## Your Care Delivered Your Way

- As a Nurse-led service, our Live-in Care Plans are designed by our Clinical Nurse Managers to suit your unique needs
- The primary Care Assistant resides in your home and is on active duty for up to seven hours, six days each week

Our team of local Care Assistants provide a seamless transition on the seventh day, allowing your Live-in Care Assistant to enjoy a day off

- They provide care for you or your loved one as and when needed, as illustrated in the example below

| The below example is based on 7 Day (49 Hour Care Plan) |   |
|---|---|
| <b>08:00 - 11:00</b>                                    | Companionship, morning meal preparation, gentle physical activities, assistance with personal hygiene, and household chores |
| <b>13:00 - 15:00</b>                                    | Lunch, clear-up, card games, crosswords and other activities  |
| <b>17:30 - 18:30</b>                                    | Dinner preparation, medication reminder, tidy up after meal   |
| <b>20:00 - 21:00</b>                                    | Personal care, assist to bed, companionship   |

## Your Live-in Care Package Options

| Live-in Care Package    | Weekly Cost | Weekly Cost @ 40% Tax Relief | Weekly Cost @ 20% Tax Relief |
|-------------------------|-------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| <b>5 Day (35 hours)</b> | €1,225      | €735                         | €980                         |
| <b>6 Day (42 hours)</b> | €1,470      | €882                         | €1,176                       |
| <b>7 Day (49 hours)</b> | €1,715      | €1,029                       | €1,372                       |

## Home Care Tax Relief

Tax relief of up to 40% on the cost of private home care is available in the Republic of Ireland. Your Bluebird Care Care Manager will talk you through the process during your initial care consultation, but here is some information on how it works.

- Tax relief can be claimed by the bill payer at their marginal rate of tax (up to 40%)
- You simply fill out a form called the HK1 Claim for an allowance for employing a Carer
- The team will support you through the whole process. You can claim tax relief annually, or indeed monthly through your pay, so you don't have to wait until the end of the year.



Live-in Care with Bluebird Care





## Live-in Care Allowed Deirdre to Come Home for Christmas

Deirdre has lived alone for the last few years after her husband sadly passed away. Deirdre more recently had a fall and this led to her having to spend a few months in hospital to recover where it was recommended she consider a nursing home. Deirdre was devastated by this news, she was determined to return to her home of 50 years. It's what was familiar to her and where all her memories of her husband were. Deirdre's friend contacted Bluebird Care

Like many, Deirdre was unfamiliar with Live-in Care and how it works, but after a visit from local Live-in Care Manager Liz, who explained the benefits of Live-in Care and provided reassurance that she would not need to move into a nursing home, Deirdre thought Live-in Care was the perfect solution for her.

Being able to have the choice to go home and remain in the community she has been part of for 50 years, was the best outcome for Deirdre. Since returning home with her Live-in Care Assistant, Deirdre has been able to attend many events and activities. She can see friends whenever she wants without having to fit around a routine of a nursing home and it has been wonderful to see a dramatic improvement in her physical and emotional wellbeing.

We really do believe that there truly is no place like home, and we are sure Deirdre agrees.

“

*Live-in Care means I don't have to sell my home of 50 years, where I hold so many memories with my late husband*

”

**Deirdre**

Bluebird Care Live-in Care Client





[Live-in Care with Bluebird Care](#)



## Live-in Blended

Our Live-in Blended model is very similar to standard Live-in care packages. It allows the Care Assistant to reside with the client while completing their specified HSE hours (7, 14, or 21 hours).

The primary Care Assistant resides in the client's home and is on active duty for up to seven hours, six days each week. Our team of local Care Assistants provide a seamless transition on the seventh day, allowing your Live-in Care Assistant to enjoy a day off.

This model is more affordable for families, as it utilises HSE funding for the client's agreed package hours, with the family supplementing the HSE package by purchasing additional hours.

For instance, families may add our Blended 23 to supplement a 7-hour HSE package, Blended 16 to supplement a 14-hour HSE package, or Blended 9 to supplement a 21-hour HSE package.

Additional hours are charged at €35.00 per hour & and the Live-in Care Assistant must receive 30 hours per week to make 120 hours per month.

| Live-in Blended Packages  | Weekly Cost | Weekly Cost @ 40% Tax Relief | Weekly Cost @ 20% Tax Relief |
|---|-------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| <b>Blended 9<br/>(Blended with a 21 hour HSE Care Package)</b>  | €315        | €189                         | €252                         |
| <b>Blended 16<br/>(Blended with a 14 hour HSE Care Package)</b> | €560        | €336                         | €448                         |
| <b>Blended 23<br/>(Blended with a 7 hour HSE Care Package)</b>  | €805        | €483                         | €644                         |

Our Live-in Blended Packages are designed to allow for total flexibility and clients can choose up to 49 hours of personalised care each week.





## How this Works

- A Bluebird Care Care Assistant moves in with client for a minimum term of 12 weeks
- The Care Assistant provides hours of care as chosen by the client.
- This would be a blend of HSE hours and Bluebird Care hours based on supplementary hours chosen.
- The Care Assistant is guaranteed a minimum of 30 hours per week Care Assistant works 6 days a week, with your local Bluebird Care office providing a seamless transition with a Care Assistant providing care for your loved one on the seventh day.
- The Care Assistant works a minimum rotation of 12 weeks with our co-ordination team managing rotation with client & family to ensure seamless transition and continuity of care.

## Care Assistant Selection & Training

At Bluebird Care, our Live-in Care Assistants are chosen from both local sources and our international Bluebird Care recruitment partners.

Each Care Assistant undergoes rigorous vetting processes, possesses stellar references, and completes extensive training & supervision before embarking on their journey to assist our clients.

We prioritise aligning the interests of our clients with those of their dedicated Care Assistants, ensuring a harmonious and fulfilling relationship. Additionally, our Care Assistants benefit from around-the-clock support from their local office, guaranteeing assistance whenever it's needed.

“ *It's the peace of mind knowing that Mam has the additional care hours she needs, it's incredibly reassuring to know someone is there with Mam when we can't be* ”

”

**Michael**

Son of Bluebird Care Live-in Blended Client



Empowering Independence | Preserving Peace of Mind





## What's Next?

### Contact your Local Office

Our expertly trained teams fully understand that this first call may be daunting for you, and we understand that you want to ensure the highest quality care for you or your loved one. Our goal is to create the right support for your loved one that ensures peace of mind and fosters independence in the comfort of your home.

### Home Assessment

The next stage entails a thorough assessment conducted by a member of the local Bluebird Care Live-in Care team. This personalised evaluation involves visiting the home to expertly assess individual requirements. Through this comprehensive process, we gain insights into physical, medical, emotional, and social needs, enabling us to tailor bespoke support precisely to meet these requirements. We welcome and encourage you to be part of these discussions.

### Personalised Care Plans

In the third phase, following the thorough needs assessment, Bluebird Care's expert team craft a personalised routine of care. This carefully tailored plan is collaboratively developed with you and your loved ones, outlining the range of services available, ensuring your peace of mind from the outset.

### Care Assistant Match

As the final step, we proceed with selecting and introducing the Live-In Care Assistant to you and your loved one. We prioritise finding a Care Assistant who aligns the individual needs and personality outlined in the care plan. Our Live-in Care team provide ongoing support through communication with you, your loved ones and the Care Assistant to ensure you are receiving the highest quality care possible.

## Find the Right Care Today

To find the right care and support call our team today and learn how our Live-in Care services can provide a choice for all.



## FAQ'S

### **What services are typically provided by the Live-in Care Assistant?**

*Our services encompass personal care, housekeeping, meal preparation, grocery shopping, medication management, companionship, and ongoing support.*

### **How is a Live-in Care Assistant selected or matched with the care recipient?**

*Introduced by the Live-in Care Manager, who has met with the family, the carer will be personally introduced to ensure alignment with the needs assessment.*

### **What qualifications and training do Live-in Care Assistants have?**

*All Care Assistants undergo QQI training or similar in the case of Overseas recruits, completing a comprehensive induction program that includes manual handling procedures. Each Care Assistant undergoes rigorous vetting processes, possesses stellar references, and completes extensive training & supervision before embarking on their journey to assist our clients.*

### **How is the Care Assistants schedule determined, and is flexibility an option?**

*The Care Assistants schedule and hours are entirely flexible, accommodating the preferences of both the family and the customer, offering complete freedom of choice.*

### **Can the Care Assistant be woken at night to provide assistance to the care recipient? Are we charged extra for that?**

*Occasional night time assistance may be provided in the event of an emergency. However, should care at night become a regular need, the care plan will need to be reassessed and additional charges may apply based on this assessment.*

### **Are Live-in Care Assistants available for short-term or temporary assistance?**

*Our services typically necessitate four-week setup period, and we typically arrange services on a rolling basis for a duration of three to six months.*

### **What safety measures are in place for both the Care Assistant and the care recipient?**

*All of our Live-in Care Assistants receive comprehensive support from our local office's on-call department. In the event of any concerns or risks, family members will be promptly contacted and informed.*

### **How do families stay involved in the care plan when a Live-in Care Assistant is present?**

*During the initial two-week setup period, thorough organisation is prioritised to ensure all aspects are meticulously arranged. Collaborative efforts between family members and the customer play a vital role in shaping a personalised care plan. The Care Assistant takes up residence within the client's home, treating it with utmost professionalism, which facilitates seamless care provision without disruption when family members visit.*

*Adherence to strict policies dictates that personal visitors are not permitted, thus acknowledging and respecting the sanctity of the client's home as a place of employment. With a designated seventh-day off, the carer can attend to personal appointments while upholding the confidentiality of the client's privacy. This underscores the paramount importance of professionalism and maintaining clear boundaries.*



## FAQ'S Continued

### **What happens if there is an emergency or if the Care Assistant needs time off?**

*Our On-call support is readily available to provide coverage at short notice, ensuring continuity of care in unforeseen circumstances. In the event of any coverage issues, proactive communication with the family will promptly address and resolve concerns, fostering transparency and reassurance regarding the client's ongoing well-being.*

### **Can the Live-in Care Assistant assist with medical needs or administer medication?**

*Yes, our Care Assistants can assist with medical needs and prompt medication according to prescribed protocols and guidelines.*

### **How does the Live-in Care Assistant handle household tasks and chores?**

*Our Care Assistants are responsible for maintaining their own room in a clean and orderly manner, ensuring a conducive environment for personal well-being. Furthermore, they will diligently fulfil household tasks as outlined within the agreed-upon care plan, demonstrating a commitment to fostering a hygienic and organized living space conducive to the client's comfort and overall welfare.*

### **How does the tenancy agreement work?**

*Bluebird Care will provide a template residential licence agreement to Live-in the customers home which will detail your details and the details of your Live-in Care Assistant. This agreement will outline the time period of the residential licence alongside any monthly rental fee - payable by the Live-in Care Assistant,*

### **Are there any specific requirements for the living space to accommodate a Live-in Care Assistant?**

*A private bedroom equipped with Wi-Fi and access to kitchen and bathroom facilities is a prerequisite for the Care Assistant.*

### **How often are care assessments conducted, and how is the care plan adjusted over time?**

*Reviews are conducted on a quarterly basis and upon the occurrence of a change in carer.*

### **What is the process for terminating or changing Live-in care services?**

*Upon commencement of services, a contract is signed and a two-week deposit is required upfront for Live-in care services. In the event of termination without due notice and less than a two-week period, the deposit will be forfeited. Regarding instances where the customer may need to be hospitalised, charges will apply for a minimum of four weeks, subject to individual review on a case-by-case basis. If the customer's hospitalisation extends over a prolonged period, the carer will be unable to remain in the customer's home and will be transferred to another assignment.*

### **Do Live-in caregivers provide companionship, and how do they engage with the care recipient?**

*Yes, the carer would reside within the client's home, integrating into the household environment and engaging in meaningful activities with the customer.*



*Live-in Care with Bluebird Care*

Find the right care today

To find the right care and support for your loved one, call our team today and learn how our Live-in Care services can provide a choice for all.

**Bluebird Care Ireland**

[www.bluebirdcare.ie](http://www.bluebirdcare.ie)