



Specialist Dementia Care Program

With a history of supporting people with complex needs, Brightwater has been chosen to pilot the Australian Government's Specialist Dementia Care Program (SDCP).

Working in collaboration with families and loved ones to use a combined approach of pharmacological and non pharmacological strategies to ensure the best possible outcomes for the individual.

The SDCP has been designed to:

- Provide specialised care for people exhibiting severe behavioural and psychological symptoms of dementia, in a dedicated dementia-friendly environment
- Focus on stabilising and reducing these symptoms over time, with the aim of enabling transition to a less intensive setting
- Generate evidence on best practice care for people living with dementia

Dementia Support Australia will assess potential clients for eligibility for the program.

Where will the SDCP take place?

Brightwater The Village is a warm and welcoming dementia-specific aged care home in Inglewood.

Located within Araluen House, the SDCP will provide a transitional home for eight people. Each client will have their own private room with ensuite bathroom, with access to shared social areas, beautiful landscaped gardens and a range of engaging activities.

Clients will be supported by a multi-skilled team, included care workers, nurses and allied health professionals.

How long will the SDCP go for?

The SDCP provides transitional, temporary support.

When behavioural and psychological symptoms stabilise, Brightwater will support clients to transition into a less intensive setting.

While timeframes will vary from person to person, the expected length of stay is up to 12 months.

Preparing to transition out of the SDCP

Planning for a smooth transition out of the SDCP begins as soon individuals move into Araluen house. The principles of care include:

- an inclusive, person-centered and goal-oriented philosophy and approach to care that builds on the strengths and capacity of individuals.
- aims to optimise functioning, stabilise behavioural symptoms, improve wellbeing and quality of life through optimal care, with a strong focus on ongoing care assessment, care planning and access to therapeutic and meaningful activities.
- delivers services tailored to the unique circumstances, background, cultural sensitivities and preferences of each client, their family and carers. This includes using supported decision-making rather than substitute decision-making wherever possible and by consulting, valuing and supporting carers and the caring relationship.

Your commitment to working collaboratively with the team towards this goal is essential.

Throughout the SDCP Brightwater will communicate with you, your point of contact for progress reports and mainstream placement when the clinical advisory committee (CAC) determine that your loved one is ready to transition out of the programme is the social worker. The social worker will assist you to accept a mainstream placement as agreed to by you at admission.

What are the fees?

The fee structure for the SDCP is exactly the same as mainstream residential aged care.

SDCP clients will be required to contribute to care costs and accommodation, with no change to basic daily care fees or means tested fees.

Clients who are assessed as able to afford to contribute to their accommodation costs can choose to pay for their accommodation at Araluen House in the following ways (all rates current at July 2026)

Option A

Pay the full deposit of up to \$575,000

This is known as the Refundable Accommodation Deposit (RAD).

This is a lump sum deposit that is fully refunded if the client leaves.

If a RAD has been previously paid at another aged care home, this will either be refunded to the client or transferred to Brightwater.

Option B

Pay a daily rate of up to \$131.38

Instead of paying the RAD, clients can pay a daily rate known as the Daily Accommodation Payment (DAP). This can be paid weekly or monthly.

Option C

Pay a partial deposit of up to \$275,000 and a reduced daily rate of up to \$68.55

Paying a portion of the RAD will reduce the daily rate, depending on how much of the deposit is paid.

The portion of the RAD paid will be fully refunded if the client leaves.

Please note that deposits and daily rates vary from home to home, and clients could be asked to pay more or less towards their care and accommodation than what they were paying before.

The SDCP will be happy to accept clients who are assessed as partially or fully supported for the accommodation component of their care costs.

To make a referral to the SDCP, please contact Dementia Support Australia on 1800 699 799 or visit www.dementia.com.au

To talk with a representative from Brightwater, please contact our admissions team on 1300 223 968

