



Why should you care?

There are currently 55,000 people living with dementia in Ireland. The majority of people with dementia (63%) live in the community. Dementia should not mean someone stops doing the things they love, like visiting museums and galleries, but as time goes on, they may need a helping hand help to continue to do this. Do not underestimate the difference you can make if you have a basic understanding of dementia. People with dementia have told us that it is the attitude of those they meet in providing services which makes the biggest difference to their experience.

How do you know if a person needs help?

Everyday challenges differ for people with dementia some of the common difficulties they may experience in in a public setting include:



Remembering names
or specific details



Findings words can be
difficult which makes
it harder for the person
to tell you what they
need or want



Navigating through
complex, confusing
or noisy environments



There are simple things you can do to help:



Body language

Smile warmly, make eye contact and listen carefully to people.



The environment

Identify if you can improve the environment by ensuring you have appropriate signage, safe and comfortable seating and reduce any unnecessary noise.



Get involved

Work with your local Alzheimer Society of Ireland service to explore the possibility of hosting a dementia friendly social event or activity.



If you plan to host a facilitated tour for people with dementia there are a number of things you can do:

The Azure project, based on a collaboration between Age & Opportunity, The Alzheimer Society of Ireland, the Butler Gallery Kilkenny, and the Irish Museum of Modern Art, is exploring the greater inclusion of people with dementia in museums and galleries in Ireland.

You can find out more at www.alzheimer.ie.



Take time

Ensure that all staff have been informed so that they can provide extra assistance if needed.



Keep informed

Ensure that the facilitator has an understanding of dementia, the selected pieces are appropriate, the tour is kept short and every person has an opportunity to contribute.



Learn more

Work with your local Alzheimer Society of Ireland service to explore the possibility of getting dementia awareness training for your staff.



DEMENTIA FRIENDLY COMMUNITIES

To find out more about Dementia Friendly Communities in Ireland please see www.alzheimer.ie or call **1800 341 341**



THE ALZHEIMER
SOCIETY of IRELAND



Alzheimer National Helpline: **1800 341 341**



www.alzheimer.ie



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