
Written 29 May 2020

C19 BUSINESS NEWS UPDATE

PM: SIX PEOPLE CAN MEET OUTSIDE UNDER NEW MEASURES TO EASE LOCKDOWN

PM Boris Johnson announced groups of up to six people will be able to meet outdoors in England from Monday 1 June, provided strict social distancing guidelines are followed.

The Prime Minister announced the change as he set out a package to ease the lockdown in a way that is expected to keep the R rate down. Thanks to the public's continued patience and hard work in helping to protect the NHS and contain the virus, the Prime Minister confirmed that the government's five tests are being met. This means we can now move forward to the next phase of adjusting the lockdown.

A series of measures will be put in place in England from Monday 1 June in three core areas – schools, retail, and social contact.

Primary schools will welcome back children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 on 1 June, and nurseries and other early years settings will be reopened. On 15 June, secondary schools, sixth forms and colleges will begin to provide some face-to-face contact time for Year 10 and 12 and the equivalent groups in further education. This will help students prepare for exams next year, and we expect there to be around a quarter of these secondary students in at any point.

The Prime Minister has also acknowledged that some schools may not be able to reopen immediately and has committed the government to continuing to work with the sector to ensure any schools experiencing difficulties are able to open as soon as possible.

Thousands of high street shops, department stores and shopping centres will also begin to reopen in June.

Outdoor markets and car showrooms will be able to reopen from 1 June, provided they meet COVID-19 secure guidelines to protect shoppers and workers. All other non-essential retail should open from 15 June, as long as the government's five tests are still being met and COVID-19 secure guidelines are followed.

Recognising the impact that lockdown is having on family and friends who have been unable to see each other, the Prime Minister announced today that from 1 June up to six people from different households will be allowed to meet outside, including in gardens and other private outdoor spaces.

The evidence shows that the risk of transmission is significantly lower outdoors and this step will mean that people can see more of their friends, family and loved ones.

It is critical that those from different households continue to stay 2 metres apart. And it remains the case that people should not spend time inside the homes of their friends and families, other than to access the garden or use the toilet.

Minimising contact with others is still the best way to prevent transmission. The Prime Minister was clear today that people should try to avoid seeing people from too many households in quick succession - so that we can avoid the risk of quick transmission between lots of different families and continue to control the virus. Those who are shielding should continue to do so. The Government recognises the toll this is taking on groups that have been asked to shield and hopes to say more soon on what further support we can provide.

See: https://www.gov.uk/government/news/pm-six-people-can-meet-outside-under-new-measures-to-ease-lockdown?utm_source=f2f5c8f0-bfa5-47a9-af8f-ad6fd469ac62&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_content=immediate

PROVIDING FREE SCHOOL MEALS DURING THE CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) OUTBREAK

Guidance for schools and local authorities on free school meals arrangements during the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak.

See: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-free-school-meals-guidance?utm_source=47844816-b1c3-42aa-9473-a9328dc39bf1&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_content=immediate

GUIDANCE ON HOW OPSS IS SUPPORTING BUSINESSES AND LOCAL AUTHORITIES AND PROTECTING CONSUMERS DURING THE CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) PANDEMIC

The Office for Product Safety and Standards (OPSS) is focusing on the key issues surrounding Government measures to protect the public during the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. During this challenging period, they are working with business to understand where regulatory requirements are preventing them delivering the products the public and NHS need.

OPSS COVID-19 guidance for businesses

[Placing hand cleaning and sanitising products on the UK market](#) (PDF, 375KB, 5 pages) - version 3, 14 May

[Personal Protective Equipment \(PPE\) Regulations](#) (PDF, 442KB, 14 pages) - version 3, 19 May

[New high-volume manufacturers of COVID-19 PPE](#) (PDF, 422KB, 11 pages) - version 4, 19 May

[New small-scale manufacturers of COVID-19 PPE](#) (PDF, 427KB, 7 pages) - version 1, 6 May - also applicable to individuals

[Manufacturers and makers of face coverings](#) (PDF, 139KB, 3 pages) - version 1, 28 May - also applicable to individuals

See: https://www.gov.uk/guidance/opss-coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-for-business-and-local-authorities?utm_source=fb5f25f1-814f-413e-ba01-89a292185152&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_content=immediate

SAFER TRANSPORT GUIDANCE FOR OPERATORS

Safer working principles and risk assessment for transport operators and organisations. This guide will help organisations, agencies and others (such as self-employed transport providers) understand how to provide safer workplaces and services for themselves, their workers and passengers across all modes of private and public transport. It outlines measures to assess and address the risks of coronavirus (COVID-19) in the transport sector across England.

Each transport provider will need to translate the principles and examples in this guidance into specific actions. It must be considered alongside legal duties and other guidance produced by the government and the relevant transport regulator for your mode. Transport providers should remain mindful of their obligations under both health and safety and employment legislation. The integrated nature of the UK's public transport system makes it important that transport providers try to co- ordinate their planning and their actions with other providers.

DFT AND HSE LETTER

A letter from the Department for Transport and the Health and Safety Executive about access to toilet and washing facilities for drivers making deliveries.

Documents



[Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): safer transport guidance for operators](#)

HTML



[Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): safer transport guidance for operators](#)

PDF, 285KB, 22 pages



[Driver access to toilet and washing facilities - a letter from Department for Transport and HSE](#)

PDF, 85.4KB, 1 page

This file may not be suitable for users of assistive technology. [Request an accessible format.](#)

See: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-safer-transport-guidance-for-operators?utm_source=c7dadb1f-ece9-45d3-b274-fd4d582c0d4a&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_content=immediate

SAFER TRAVEL GUIDANCE FOR PASSENGERS

This guide will help you understand how to travel safely during the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak in England. It provides guidance for walking, cycling, using private vehicles (for example cars and vans), and travelling by taxis and public transport (for example trains, buses, coaches and ferries).

You should avoid using public transport where possible. Instead try to walk, cycle, or drive. If you do travel, thinking carefully about the times, routes and ways you travel will mean we will all have more space to stay safe.

See: https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-safer-travel-guidance-for-passengers?utm_source=1a1d0b56-f551-4924-b859-3ded37fa31d2&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_content=immediate

The guide covers:

- Walking and cycling
- Public transport
- Taxis and private hire vehicles
- Private cars and other vehicles
- Aviation, ferries and maritime transport
- International travel
- Checklists for safer travel



The guide is an essential read for all travellers.

CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19): GETTING TESTED

The Government has updated its guidance on coronavirus testing, including who is eligible for a test and how to get tested.

Contents

- [Who can be tested](#)
- [Arrange a test if you're an essential worker](#)
- [The testing process](#)
- [Care home residents and workers \(England only\)](#)
- [List of essential workers and those prioritised for testing \(England only\)](#)

See: https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-getting-tested?utm_source=14ca7ce2-b9f7-414b-8bef-59a8fc58c8c7&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_content=immediate