



Cabinet Office

COVID-19 Response: Summer 2021



easy
read

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In this easy read document, difficult words are in **bold**. We explain what these words mean in the sentence after they have been used.



Some words are [blue and underlined](#). These are links which will go to another website which has more information.

Introduction



The Government has written this guidance to help people stay safe from **COVID-19** this summer.

COVID-19 is an illness that is spreading around the world. It affects your lungs and breathing.



Many people have now had the **COVID-19 vaccine**.

The **vaccine** is an injection that helps to stop you getting ill with COVID-19.



Since 19 July 2021, most of the rules that were in place to stop the spread of COVID-19 have ended.



This means that things in this country can start to get back to normal.



But COVID-19 is still around. You can still catch it and spread it.

This guidance will help people to learn how to keep themselves safe and slow the spread of COVID-19.

Step 4 of the roadmap plan



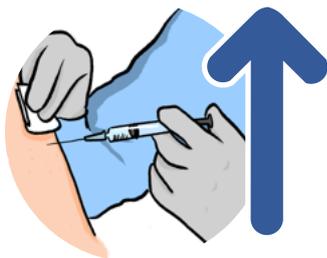
Earlier this year, the Government wrote a roadmap plan to safely and gradually allow everyone to do more things.

We planned to do this in 4 steps. With each step you would be able to do more things.



On 19 July 2021, we moved to step 4 of our plan.

In step 4 the Government will:



- get more people to have the vaccine and offer **booster jabs** in the future



A **booster jab** is an extra vaccine that gives you extra protection.



- help people make decisions about COVID-19 which will protect everyone and help them to feel safe



- carry on with testing for COVID-19

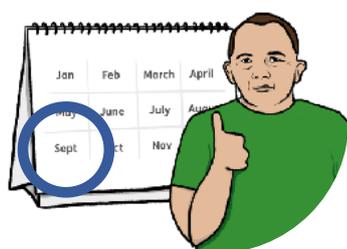


- test people for COVID-19 who are travelling to England, and help other countries get the vaccine



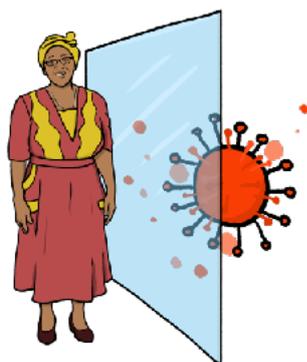
- have plans for if COVID-19 gets worse.

Getting more people to have the vaccine and offering booster jabs in the future



By the middle of September, all adults will have had the chance to be fully vaccinated.

Being fully vaccinated means:



- you are very well protected against getting seriously ill if you catch COVID-19



- it is very unlikely that you will have to go into hospital if you catch COVID-19.



Booster vaccine

We are planning to start giving some people a booster vaccine in addition to their yearly flu vaccine.

At first we are planning to give a booster jab to:



- adults who have a health condition that means their body can't fight illnesses



- people living in care homes



- adults over age 70



- adults who are **clinically extremely vulnerable**



- health and social care workers.



Clinically extremely vulnerable means you have health issues which mean you are more likely to be very ill with COVID-19.



After that we would start to give the booster jab to:

- adults over age 50



- all adults who are likely to be ill if they catch COVID-19



- anyone who is in the same household as someone who has a health condition that means their body can't fight illnesses.

Vaccinating children



We are asking doctors if we should give the vaccine to children.

Health and social care staff



We are making a rule that says you must be fully vaccinated to work in a care home.



We are also going to look into whether all health and social care staff should be required to be fully vaccinated.

Helping people make decisions about COVID-19 which will protect everyone and help them to feel safe



We are now ending most of the rules that we had to keep people safe from COVID-19.



Instead we want people to behave in a way that keeps themselves and others safe.

We will give guidance about how to do this.



From 19 July 2021:

- you can meet with any number of people indoors or outdoors



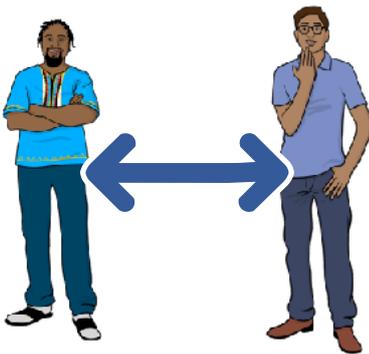
- all places will be open, including nightclubs and large events



- any number of people can go to weddings, funerals and other events. People can sing and dance again



- you don't have to wear a face mask, but you should still wear face masks in very crowded places, like on public transport



- you can get close to other people. Some places will still ask you keep a safe distance from other people



- people who have been working from home can start to go back to their usual workplace



- you can order at the bar in pubs, cafés and restaurants and you are able to drink standing up



- any number of people can visit people in care homes.

From 16 August 2021:



- people under age 18 don't have to **self-isolate** if they have been close to someone with COVID-19



Self-isolating means staying inside away from others for 10 days - or until you have a test that shows that you don't have COVID-19.



- people who are fully vaccinated don't have to self-isolate if they have been close to someone with COVID-19.

Being careful



If COVID-19 increases in your local area, health professionals can advise that people stay 2 metres apart in certain places for a certain amount of time.



Businesses should ask staff and customers to wash their hands regularly. Staff should clean anything that people have touched.



You should still use your NHS **COVID-19 App** and the **QR codes** to check into places.

The **COVID-19 App** is a computer programme on your phone or tablet that helps to let you know if you might have COVID-19.



A **QR code** is a square made up of little dots. If you point the camera on your phone at the QR code, your phone will read the little dots.



You should get a test if the NHS app says you have been close to someone with COVID-19.



Some rules

You must self-isolate if a test shows that you have COVID-19.



If you are self-isolating, your boss must not make you come into work.

Government advice

Instead of the rules that were place, the Government is now advising you to:



- meet in places which have lots of fresh air - outdoors or inside with the windows and doors open



- carry on wearing a face mask in crowded places and on public transport, like buses and trains, unless there is a reason you don't have to



- wash your hands regularly with soap and water, or use hand sanitiser



- cover your nose and mouth when you cough and sneeze



- stay at home if you feel unwell



- think about how to keep yourself healthy



- respect people who want to be more careful and not get too close to you.

Carrying on with testing for COVID-19



We will carry on with the NHS Test and Trace scheme which:

- tests to see if you have COVID-19



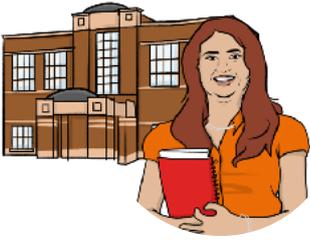
- traces or finds anyone who has been near people who have COVID-19



- asks people to self-isolate.



We will keep the NHS Test and Trace scheme going through the autumn and winter.



We will regularly test certain people, like:

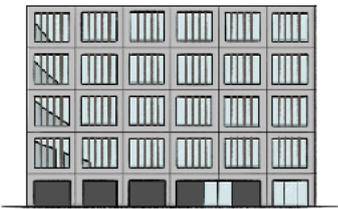
- people in school



- NHS workers



- social care workers

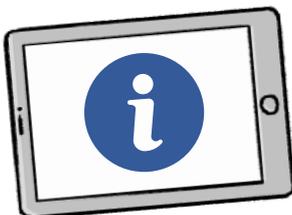


- people who work in prisons.

Test and Trace Support Payment



If self-isolating affects the money you earn, for example if you can't go to work, you may be able to get a £500 Test and Trace Support Payment.

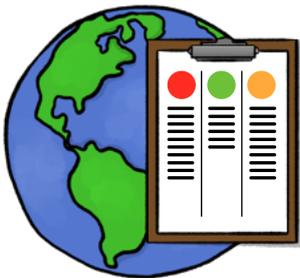


You can get more information about this from your local council's website.

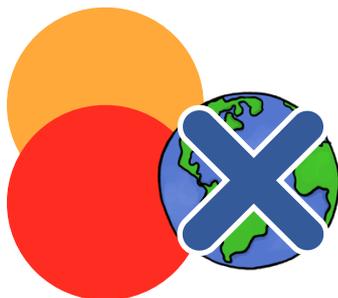
Testing people for COVID-19 who are travelling to England, and helping other countries get the vaccine



We want to stop people bringing new types of COVID-19 into this country.



We have put other countries on a red, amber or green list.



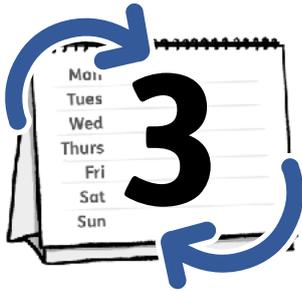
You should not go to a country on the amber or red list.



From 19 July, if you have been fully vaccinated, you won't have to quarantine if you came back to England from an amber list country.



You don't need to quarantine when you come back to England from a country on the green list.



Every 3 weeks we check to see if a country should move to a different list.



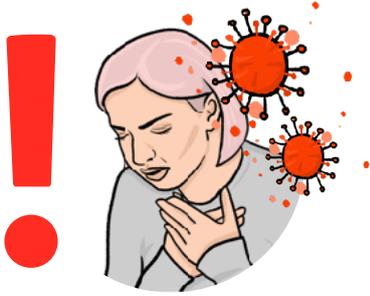
Vaccinate the world

We will only be safe when most people in the world have had the vaccine.



We are working to help countries where not everyone has access to the vaccine.

Planning for situations in the future



There is still a risk that a new form of COVID-19 will appear and make people ill.



Our scientists will keep a watch for new forms of COVID-19 appearing.



We will keep a check so a new form of COVID-19 cannot spread in the country.



If things get worse again, we may have to bring back or create new rules to keep people safe.



We will check that the NHS can cope with the number of people who are getting ill.



We will check that we are ready if things get worse in autumn and winter, and see if we need new rules.

For more information



If you need more information, please go to the [Government website](#).