



Briefing Note 55 - COVID-19 Guidance

As at 09:00 Tuesday 12th May 2020

A. Headline UK announcements on Monday 11th May 2020

Item

- A1 [OUR PLAN TO REBUILD: The UK Government's COVID-19 Recovery Strategy](#)
- A2 [Staying alert and safe \(social distancing\)](#)
- A3 [Staying safe outside your home](#)
- A4 [How to make and wear a cloth face covering](#)
- A5 [Public advised to cover faces in enclosed public spaces such as shops, trains & buses](#)
- A6 [Working safely during coronavirus: helping Brits get safely back to work](#)
- A7 [New online portal for care homes to arrange testing for staff and residents](#)
- A8 [Health and wellbeing of the adult social care workforce](#)
- A9 [Actions for education & childcare settings to prepare for opening on 1st June 2020](#)

B. Data sources

Sources of daily rolling data

- B1 [Slides used in 7pm ministerial media briefing](#)
- B2 [UK statistics: \(a\) recorded deaths 32,065 \(+210\) \(b\) positive tests 223,060 \(+3,877\)](#)
- B3 [UK government COVID-19 data tracker](#)
- B4 [Office for National Statistics \(ONS\): analysis of COVID-19 data](#)

C. Devolved administrations

Information for Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland

- C1 [Information about COVID-19 and its impact on Scotland](#)
- C2 [Information about COVID-19 and its impact on Wales](#)
- C3 [Information about COVID-19 and its impact on Northern Ireland](#)



D. Commentary

The daily ministerial media briefing took place at 7pm and was led by the Prime Minister, Boris Johnson. He described the elements of the new COVID Alert System which will form a key indicator in the government’s phased recovery which is set out in detail in ‘[Our Plan to Rebuild](#)’ which was published yesterday. He indicated that the UK was currently at level four as below.

COVID Alert Levels		
Level	Description	Action
5	As level 4 and there is a material risk of healthcare services being overwhelmed	Social distancing measures increase from today’s level
4	A COVID-19 epidemic is in general circulation; transmission is high or rising exponentially	Current social distancing measures and restrictions
3	A COVID-19 epidemic is in general circulation	Gradual relaxing of restrictions and social distancing measures
2	COVID-19 is present in the UK, but the number of cases and transmission is low	No or minimal social distancing measures; enhanced testing, tracing, monitoring and screening
1	COVID-19 is not known to be present in the UK	Routine international monitoring

During the day various government guidance [documents](#) were released to help people and employers prepare for a gradual and safe return to work when working from home is not possible. Eight separate workplaces and areas were identified with bespoke guides issued:

1. [Construction and other outdoor work](#)
2. [Factories, plants and warehouses](#)
3. [Laboratories and research facilities](#)
4. [Offices and contact centres](#)
5. [Other people’s homes](#)
6. [Restaurants offering takeaway or delivery](#)
7. [Shops and branches](#)
8. [Vehicles](#)

Each workplace is required to comply with the government’s ‘Staying COVID-19 Secure in 2020’ guidance and a signed [poster](#) must be displayed signed by the employer and a health and safety representative to confirm compliance with the government’s ‘Five steps to working safer together’.



Annex

RESOURCES: UK government guidance and related advice

REF	DOCUMENTS and OTHER SOURCES OF GUIDANCE	DATE ISSUED OR UPDATED
Adult social care		
R1	<u>Home care provision</u>	06/04/2020
R2	<u>Changes to Care Act 2014 allowing local authorities to prioritise care</u>	01/04/2020
R3	<u>How to work safely in care homes</u>	27/04/2020
R4	<u>Dedicated app for social care workers</u>	06/05/2020
Business and other venues – directions to close		
R5	<u>Guidance for closing certain businesses and venues in England</u>	01/05/2020
R6	<u>Designated power to issue fixed penalty notices by local authorities</u>	23/04/2020
R7	<u>Guidance for closing certain businesses</u>	27/03/2020
Business support and employment		
R8	<u>Guidance for employees, employers and businesses</u>	07/04/2020
R9	<u>Financial help for the self-employed</u>	26/03/2020
R10	<u>Are you covered under the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme?</u>	01/05/2020
R11	<u>Claiming wages through the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme</u>	01/05/2020
R12	<u>Grant funding scheme: guidance for local authorities – version 5</u>	24/04/2020
R13	<u>Business support – Frequently Asked Questions</u>	Website
R14	<u>Guidance for businesses on grant funding schemes: Version 5</u>	24/04/2020
R15	<u>Expanded retail discount 2020-2021: guidance for local authorities</u>	02/04/2020
R16	<u>Grant funding allocations by local authority in England</u>	24/04/2020
R17	<u>Grant payments made to businesses by local authority area in England</u>	10/05/2020
R18	<u>Procurement policy guidance to public bodies on payment of their suppliers</u>	17/04/2020
R19	<u>Increase to Working Tax Credits with effect from 6th April 2020</u>	07/04/2020
R20	<u>Step-by-step guidance for employers on claiming under Job Retention Scheme</u>	11/05/2020
R21	<u>Financial support for businesses: Headline terms for 'Future Fund'</u>	19/04/2020
R22	<u>Online support tool for employers and the self-employed</u>	Website
R23	<u>Business Improvement Districts to receive £6.1 million funding</u>	01/05/2020

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R24	<u>Treasury Direction: Self-Employment Income Support Scheme arrangements</u>	30/04/2020
R25	<u>Bounce Back Loan Scheme: Letter from Chancellor to accredited lenders</u>	01/05/2020
R26	<u>Top-up discretionary business grant fund scheme for small businesses</u>	02/05/2020
R27	<u>Tax credits customers to be paid even if working less hours</u>	04/05/2020
R28	<u>How to apply for a Bounce Back Loan</u>	Website
R29	<u>Business rates revaluation postponed until 2021</u>	06/05/2020
R30	<u>New funding to support dairy farmers</u>	06/05/2020

Children and young people

R31	<u>Guidance on vulnerable children and young people</u>	19/04/2020
R32	<u>Guidance for parents & carers on looking after mental health of children</u>	21/04/2020
R33	<u>Guidance for children's social care services</u>	06/05/2020

Construction sites

R34	<u>Construction site operating procedures – version 3</u>	14/04/2020
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Deaths and bereavement

R35	<u>Guidance for care of the deceased – for health professionals</u>	20/04/2020
R36	<u>Directions to councils in England to allow family members to attend funerals</u>	17/04/2020
R37	<u>Statutory guidance to local authorities in England on local death management</u>	April 2020
R38	<u>Guidance for managing a funeral during the pandemic</u>	19/04/2020
R39	<u>Collection of guidance for those involved in managing deaths</u>	21/04/2020
R40	<u>Information leaflet for the bereaved</u>	April 2020
R41	<u>Public Health England Data Series on Deaths in People with COVID-19</u>	29/04/2020
R42	<u>New daily reporting for all deaths in England (press release)</u>	29/04/2020
R43	<u>Chief Coroner's Note 34 – guidance for coroners</u>	26/03/2020
R44	<u>Chief Coroner's Note 35 – hearings during the pandemic</u>	27/03/2020
R45	<u>Chief Coroner's Note 36 – Coronavirus Act: provisions relevant to coroners</u>	30/03/2020
R46	<u>Chief Coroner's Note 37 and possible exposure in the workplace</u>	28/04/2020
R47	<u>Verification of deaths in times of emergency</u>	05/05/2020

Education settings and vocational training

R48	<u>Collection of guidance for schools and other educational settings</u>	11/05/2020
R49	<u>Information for parents and carers about schools & other educational settings</u>	11/05/2020
R50	<u>Guidance for schools and councils on maintaining educational provision</u>	05/05/2020
R51	<u>Guidance on temporary closure of schools in England</u>	28/04/2020



R52	<u>Safeguarding guidance for schools, colleges and other premises in England</u>	27/03/2020
R53	<u>Guidance on maintaining further education</u>	07/05/2020
R54	<u>Guidance for head teachers on awarding qualifications in summer 2020</u>	April 2020
R55	<u>Guidance for teachers, students, parents and carers on educational grades</u>	April 2020
R56	<u>Summer 2020 results for vocational, technical and other qualifications</u>	30/04/2020
R57	<u>Free school meals guidance</u>	30/04/2020
R58	<u>Guidance for apprentices, employers, training providers and assessors</u>	24/04/2020
R59	<u>Funding to support schools with exceptional costs</u>	07/04/2020
R60	<u>Cancellation of GCSEs, AS and A levels: Frequently Asked Questions</u>	01/05/2020
R61	<u>Special schools managing children with complex needs (SEND)</u>	07/05/2020
R62	<u>Induction for newly qualified teachers</u>	01/05/2020
R63	<u>Actions for higher education providers and support for universities & students</u>	04/05/2020
R64	<u>International travel advice for educational settings</u>	05/05/2020
R65	<u>Awarding qualifications in 2020: Ofqual update following consultation</u>	06/05/2020
R66	<u>School attendance of children and teachers since 23rd March 2020</u>	05/05/2020
R67	<u>Examples of remote education practice from schools & academies in England</u>	05/05/2020
R68	<u>Oak National Academy – an online teaching resource for teachers</u>	Website
R69	<u>BBC Bitesize: support for students in primary and secondary schools</u>	Website
Food hygiene		
R70	<u>Guidance for consumers on how to maintain food hygiene</u>	25/04/2020
Glossary of terms used in UK government guidance		
R71	<u>Glossary</u>	03/05/2020
Healthcare professionals and hospital settings		
R72	<u>Background information (epidemiology, virology and clinical features)</u>	11/05/2020
R73	<u>Collection of guidance for healthcare professionals and others</u>	27/04/2020
R74	<u>Management of exposed healthcare workers & patients in hospital</u>	06/05/2020
R75	<u>Guidance for ambulance trusts</u>	11/04/2020
R76	<u>Guidance for first responders</u>	09/05/2020
R77	<u>Guidance for taking swab samples</u>	23/04/2020
R78	<u>Infection prevention and control</u>	03/05/2020
R79	<u>Hospital discharge service requirements</u>	19/03/2020
R80	<u>Infection control precautions when discharging from hospital to home</u>	23/04/2020

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Homecare (domiciliary care)		
R81	<u>PPE for care workers delivering home care in England</u>	30/04/2020
R82	<u>Putting on PPE for home carers</u>	30/04/2020
R83	<u>Taking off PPE for home carers</u>	30/04/2020
R84	<u>Over one million food boxes delivered to those most at risk in England</u>	06/05/2020
R85	<u>Guidance for people who receive direct payments for care and support</u>	07/05/2020
International		
R86	<u>Guidance for UK businesses trading internationally</u>	24/04/2020
R87	<u>UK financial assistance to help reduce mass infections in developing countries</u>	12/04/2020
R88	<u>PPE export control process for UK companies trading internationally</u>	05/05/2020
R89	<u>How the FCO processes your data if you apply for an emergency loan abroad</u>	26/06/2018
R90	<u>The British Gurkhas rescue Brits stranded in Nepal (video)</u>	07/05/2020
Laboratories		
R91	<u>Guidance for organisations with laboratory testing capability</u>	09/04/2020
Laws and regulations		
R92	<u>Coronavirus Act 2020</u>	25/03/2020
R93	<u>Coronavirus Act 2020: table setting out the status of each measure</u>	07/05/2020
R94	<u>The Health Protection (Coronavirus) Regulations 2020</u>	10/02/2020
R95	<u>The Health Protection (Coronavirus, Restrictions)(England) Regulations 2020</u>	26/03/2020
R96	<u>Domestic Abuse Bill</u>	03/03/2020
R97	<u>The Adoption and Children (Coronavirus)(Amendment) Regulations 2020</u>	24/04/2020
Local authorities		
R98	<u>Guidance to local authorities for controlling fraud</u>	March 2020
R99	<u>Council tax: guidance for local authorities on implementing the hardship fund</u>	March 2020
R100	<u>Guidance to local authorities in England on prioritising waste collections</u>	05/05/2020
R101	<u>Postponement of elections</u>	06/04/2020
R102	<u>Mitigating impacts on Gypsy and traveller Communities</u>	01/05/2020
R103	<u>25 local councils pledge to continue vital residential building safety work</u>	06/05/2020
Medicines and healthcare products		
R104	<u>Medicines & Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) : collection</u>	07/05/2020
Mental health		
R105	<u>Mental health helplines</u>	Website

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R106	<u>Support and practical guidance for those suffering with mental health issues</u>	31/03/2020
R107	<u>Easy-read guide: looking after your feelings and body</u>	March 2020
R108	<u>Health and social care staff who care for people lacking mental capacity</u>	09/04/2020

Office for Budget Responsibility (OBR)

R109	<u>Coronavirus analysis and implications for the UK economy</u>	Website
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Personal protective equipment (PPE)

R110	<u>PPE use for aerosol generating procedures</u>	10/04/2020
R111	<u>PPE use for non-aerosol generating procedures</u>	08/04/2020
R112	<u>Management of exposed healthcare workers and patients in hospitals</u>	06/05/2020
R113	<u>Coronavirus Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Hub</u>	18/04/2020
R114	<u>Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Plan</u>	10/04/2020
R115	<u>VAT removed from PPE purchases for three months (press release)</u>	01/05/2020
R116	<u>Millions more items of PPE to be provided through UK business partnerships</u>	09/05/2020

Procurement policy guidance to public bodies

R117	<u>Payment to suppliers of public bodies</u>	17/04/2020
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Public information

R118	<u>Coronavirus: action plan – A guide to what you can expect across the UK</u>	03/03/2020
R119	<u>NHS health advice for everyone</u>	Website
R120	<u>Stay at home guidance for households with possible coronavirus infection</u>	28/04/2020
R121	<u>Parliamentary Inquiry by Parliamentary Women & Equalities Committee</u>	30/03/2020
R122	<u>Prime Minister’s letter to the nation</u>	23/03/2020
R123	<u>Coronavirus public information leaflet</u>	23/03/2020
R124	<u>Coronavirus easy-read public information leaflet</u>	April 2020
R125	<u>Frequently asked questions: what you can and cannot do</u>	11/05/2020
R126	<u>Video explanation about the rate of infection value known as ‘R’</u>	01/02/2020
R127	<u>British Sign Language COVID-19 information accessible via SIGNHEALTH</u>	Website
R128	<u>Emergency funding to support most vulnerable in society</u>	02/05/2020
R129	<u>List of critical workers who can send their children to school</u>	05/05/2020
R130	<u>Statement by the Prime Minister explaining how restrictions will be eased</u>	10/05/2020

Rapidly Manufactured Ventilator System Project

R131	<u>Indemnities granted to manufacturers</u>	April 2020
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Renting and landlords		
R132	<u>Non-statutory renting guidance for landlords, tenants and local authorities</u>	28/03/2020
Restoration of NHS services		
R133	<u>Fertility clinics to re-open from 11th May 2020</u>	05/05/2020
Rough sleepers		
R134	<u>Dame Louise Casey to lead government specialist task force on rough sleeping</u>	02/05/2020
Scientific advice		
R135	<u>Scientific Advisory Group for Emergencies (SAGE): COVID-19 guidance</u>	Website
R136	<u>Scientific Advisory Group for Emergencies (SAGE) membership</u>	07/05/2020
R137	<u>Scientific evidence supporting the UK government response</u>	Website
Security		
R138	<u>Guidance on cyber security and home working</u>	02/04/2020
R139	<u>'Silent Solution' - contacting the police by mobile phone if you cannot speak</u>	07/04/2019
R140	<u>Support for victims of domestic abuse announced by Home Secretary</u>	11/04/2020
R141	<u>Directions given to the NHS to disclose cyber security information to GCHQ</u>	03/04/2020
R142	<u>Thinkuknow programme to protect children when using devices online</u>	Website
R143	<u>Domestic abuse safe accommodation: emergency support fund</u>	07/05/2020
R144	<u>Countering online child sexual exploitation and abuse during the pandemic</u>	08/05/2020
R145	<u>Voluntary Principles to counter online child sexual exploitation and abuse</u>	08/05/2020
Staying at home and away from others (social distancing)		
R146	<u>Measures to protect people at higher risk from Coronavirus</u>	05/05/2020
R147	<u>Easy-read guide on protecting extremely vulnerable people</u>	March 2020
R148	<u>How to help safely: guidance</u>	23/04/2020
Testing and vaccines		
R149	<u>Status Tracker: tell the NHS about your experience of coronavirus</u>	Website
R150	<u>Government plans for scaling up testing programmes</u>	04/04/2020
R151	<u>Guidance on COVID-19 testing for frontline workers who are self-isolating</u>	11/05/2020
R152	<u>Testing arrangements for essential workers in England with symptoms</u>	11/05/2020
R153	<u>Booking tests: User guide for essential workers in England with symptoms</u>	30/04/2020
R154	<u>Mobile testing units to test frontline workers</u>	26/04/2020
R155	<u>Drug trials could be fast-tracked through new clinical trial initiative</u>	29/04/2020



R156	<u>Testing for coronavirus: privacy information</u>	01/05/2020
R157	<u>Test, track and trace plan launched on the Isle of Wight</u>	04/05/2020
R158	<u>New biological reagent available to support global diagnostic testing</u>	06/05/2020

Transport and travel

R159	<u>Guidance and advice to avoid non-essential travel in the UK</u>	22/03/2020
R160	<u>Safety guidance for towpaths and waterways from the Canal and River Trust</u>	Website
R161	<u>Government data sources and methodology for gathering transport use data</u>	15/04/2020
R162	<u>Driver and rider trainers in England, Scotland and Wales – DVSA guidance</u>	22/04/2020
R163	<u>£2 billion fund for cycling and walking - reducing public transport use</u>	09/05/2020
R164	<u>Statutory guidance for local authorities on managing their road networks</u>	09/05/2020
R165	<u>Temporary road signs for pedestrians, drivers and cyclists</u>	09/05/2020

Trials and volunteers

R166	<u>Volunteering for the National Health Service: Good Samaritan app</u>	Website
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World Health Organisation

R167	<u>World Health Organisation</u>	Website
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