

Applying the exceptions to the 'rule of 6' guidance

The purpose of this document is to help people in their decision making about whether an activity is permitted under the new 'rule of 6 guidance'

The primary of the new guidance is to limit the number of people meet socially indoors or outdoors to six at any one time

Principles to follow and exceptions to the rule of six

The key questions that should be asked for activities over 6 people are:

1. Is the activity covered in the exception list? See table below
2. Is the activity formally organised?
3. Is the activity on the list below but is organised by a friend or family – not permitted
4. Has a COVID-19 risk assessment been completed?
5. Where activities are more than 30 are they limited to groups of six people which do not mingle where there is not an exemption to this rule.
6. Are arrangements in place to allow social distancing?
7. Is the activity for under 18 year olds (are exempt from the new rule)

The areas where the exceptions operate are:

| Area | To complete: Tick which exception area | Is the activity COVID-19 secure? A risk assessment has been completed and is available | Is it a formal activity? ie not organised by family and friends | Are there clear arrangements for people to attend in groups of six which do not mix |
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| Work | | | | |
| Voluntary or charitable services | | | | |
| Registered, childcare, education training | | | | Does not apply |
| Supervised activities for children, wraparound care, youth groups, playgroups. | | | | Does not apply but need to emphasise social distancing |
| Providing support to a vulnerable person | | | | |
| For arrangements when a child does not live with both their parents | | | | |
| Attending court or jury service | | | | |
| Elite sporting competition and training | | | | |
| Weddings up to 30 people in a public place | | | | Does not apply |
| Funerals up to 30 people. This does not include wakes | | | | |
| Other religious life style ceremonies up to 30 people in a public place (does not allow celebrations) | | | | Does not apply |
| Organised sport, dance or exercise classes or licence outdoor physical activity. Click here (3.16) full list of activities permitted. | | | | Does not apply but limit social interaction Must not mix in more than 6 before and after |

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| Religious services but no one to mix in more than groups of six | | | | |
| Support groups – formally organised groups, mutual aid, therapy or other forms of support. (Organised by a business, a charitable, benevolent or philanthropic institution or a public body) Click here 3.18 | | | | Does not apply |
| Support groups – informal groups not on the exception lists | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support groups not covered by this exemption can still take place if they do not breach the new gatherings limit of six people. • This does not mean that no more than six people can attend. • There can be multiple groups of six people attending, provided that the social interaction and shared activity is limited to groups of six. • Where this is unlikely to be possible, no more than six people should attend. • Anybody who is attending for work purposes is excluded from the gatherings limit. | | | |
| Protests organised in compliance with COVID-19 | | | | |
| Theatre, musical and comedy shows | | | | |
| Pubs, shops, leisures venues, restaurants but in no more than groups of six | | | | |

See full list of exemptions on the [guidance](#) and supporting [FAQs](#).which explain the exceptions in more detail

For local event requests, contact the events teams at [add email](#).

Relevant Guidance for further information

Guidance Coronavirus (COVID-19): Meeting with others safely (social distancing). Updated 14 September 2020

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-meeting-with-others-safely-social-distancing/coronavirus-covid-19-meeting-with-others-safely-social-distancing>

Guidance Coronavirus outbreak FAQs: what you can and can't do. Updated 14 September 2020

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-outbreak-faqs-what-you-can-and-cant-do/coronavirus-outbreak-faqs-what-you-can-and-cant-do>

Guidance COVID-19: guidance for the safe use of places of worship and special religious services and gatherings during the pandemic

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-for-the-safe-use-of-places-of-worship-during-the-pandemic-from-4-july>

Guidance Working safely during coronavirus (COVID-19). Updated 17 September 2020

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/working-safely-during-coronavirus-covid-19>

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