

# 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
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 <a href="#">here</a> (3.16) full list of activities permitted.				Does not apply but limit social interaction  Must not mix in more than 6 before and after

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) <a href="#">Click here 3.18</a>				Does not apply
Support groups – informal groups not on the exception lists	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support groups not covered by this exemption can still take place if they do not breach the new gatherings limit of six people.</li> <li>• This does not mean that no more than six people can attend.</li> <li>• There can be multiple groups of six people attending, provided that the social interaction and shared activity is limited to groups of six.</li> <li>• Where this is unlikely to be possible, no more than six people should attend.</li> <li>• Anybody who is attending for work purposes is excluded from the gatherings limit.</li> </ul>			
Protests organised in compliance with COVID-19				
Theatre, musical and comedy shows				
Pubs, shops, leisure 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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