

COVID-19 Update for UK Employees | 19/04/2021

Why are restrictions still needed when people are vaccinated?

We want to remind all employees of the need to continue to exercise caution both at work, and when away from home. While restrictions are easing and many people have been vaccinated, it does not mean that the risk of the virus has passed.

In particular, those who have been vaccinated can still catch Coronavirus and also pass it on to other people – including those who have not yet received the jab and so will not have the protection against serious symptoms it offers. **Over the last week, of the four confirmed COVID cases amongst our UK employees, two of these were people who have already received the first dose of the vaccine several weeks ago.**



BEHAVIOURS THAT SAVE LIVES

This clearly demonstrates that it is vital that we all continue to adhere to the **Four Behaviours that Save Lives** and follow the Health & Safety protocols that are in place at our sites. Remember too that there are those amongst

our workforce who have recently returned after shielding and could be seriously ill if they were to catch the virus. We all have a moral responsibility to look out for one another and do what we can to keep each other safe.



While the vaccine reduces the chance of suffering from the virus, and those who catch it following the jab may have less severe symptoms, it is not a complete solution to the pandemic and needs to be used alongside the other measures that are in place.

The [BBC](#) has a good explanation of why we need to keep following all the controls, based on the **H&S swiss cheese model**. We have used this to create a short video which we strongly encourage all employees to watch and share with their teams and families – it is only three minutes long but clearly demonstrates why we all must continue to play our part to minimise the spread of the virus.

You can watch the video [here](#).

Guide to current restrictions in England

The Government has published a helpful guide summarising the changes and the restrictions that remain in place in England, following the easing of certain measures this week. This is attached – please do share with your colleagues and families if they have any questions about what activities are permitted.

HM Government		NHS	
COVID-19: Restrictions in England			
From 12 April			
STEP 2			
MEET OTHERS	GOVERNMENT TIPS	WALK/CYCLE	WASH AND COVER YOUR FACE
The maximum number of people you can meet outdoors has increased to six. The maximum number of people you can meet indoors has increased to three.	Continue to keep your distance from other people. Avoid large gatherings and events. Avoid public transport.	Wash and cover your face and avoid public transport. Avoid public transport. Avoid public transport.	You should still continue to wash and cover your face.
WORK AND BUSINESS TRAVEL	DATE FROM APP (CORONAVIRUS)	ACCOMMODATION	LEISURE AND SPORTING ACTIVITIES
At most one business meeting in the office.	One person per room. The maximum number of people in a room is 10. The maximum number of people in a room is 10.	Continued and limited. The maximum number of people in a room is 10. The maximum number of people in a room is 10.	Continued and limited. The maximum number of people in a room is 10. The maximum number of people in a room is 10.
ENTERTAINMENT	PUBLIC HOUSES	RECREATIONAL CLUBS	RESTAURANTS
Closed until 12 April. The maximum number of people in a room is 10. The maximum number of people in a room is 10.	Open and limited. The maximum number of people in a room is 10. The maximum number of people in a room is 10.	Open and limited. The maximum number of people in a room is 10. The maximum number of people in a room is 10.	Open and limited. The maximum number of people in a room is 10. The maximum number of people in a room is 10.
SPORTING EVENTS	OUTDOOR EVENTS	TRAVEL BY AIR	RECREATIONAL CLUBS
The maximum number of people in a room is 10. The maximum number of people in a room is 10.	Open and limited. The maximum number of people in a room is 10. The maximum number of people in a room is 10.	Open and limited. The maximum number of people in a room is 10. The maximum number of people in a room is 10.	Open and limited. The maximum number of people in a room is 10. The maximum number of people in a room is 10.

Employee Assistance Programme

Free, confidential support and counselling available for all employees

If you're worried about a work, family or personal issue then the Employee Assistance Programme can help, 24/7.

Support with everything from consumer rights to bereavement, depression & anxiety to childcare.

