Briefing Note 54 - COVID-19 Guidance
As at 09:00 Monday 11th May 2020

A. Headline announcements on Sunday 10th May 2020

Item
A1   **Statement by the Prime Minister explaining how restrictions will be eased**

B. Data sources

Sources of daily rolling data
B1   **UK statistics: (a) recorded deaths 31,855 (+268) (b) positive tests 219,183 (+3,923)**
B2   **UK government COVID-19 data tracker**
B3   **Office for National Statistics (ONS): analysis of COVID-19 data**

C. Commentary

The 7pm ministerial media briefing was let by the Prime Minister who unveiled the government's Phase 2 response to the pandemic with the slogan **STAY ALERT-CONTROL THE VIRUS-SAVE LIVES.**

The Prime Minister announced a new COVID Alert System run by a 'Joint Biosecurity Centre' to chart the progress of the UK as restrictions are slowly released. There will be five levels of the alert system ascending from one to five, where one is the lowest (or safest) level and five is the highest (and most dangerous). The status of each level will be determined by the rate of transmission [R] and the number of cases of coronavirus. In brief, the alert levels will determine the extent of restrictions that will need to be in place at each level. The Prime Minister did not elaborate on the detail of the alert system or how the criteria for each stage will be determined.

He set out a 'conditional plan' with three steps and will be presenting it to Parliament today (Monday 11th May 2020). A more detailed guidance document explaining each element of the plan is expected to be issued today.

Step 1 (now):

People who are unable to work from home should be actively encouraged to go to work if they can – avoiding public transport if possible. Public transport will continue to be limited and operators will be required to provide COVID-secure standards. New guidance is to be issued for employers to make workplaces COVID-secure.

From Wednesday 13th May, people will be encouraged to take unlimited outdoor exercise. This, according to the Prime Minister, includes sitting in the sun in a local park, driving to other destinations, and playing sport with members of your own household outdoors.

Existing (two-metre) social distancing rules will apply and the government has increased the level of fines that may be imposed for those who ignore the rules.

Step 2 (by Monday 1st June 2020)

The phased reopening of shops and allowing primary pupils back to schools, in stages, beginning with reception, Year 1 and Year 6.
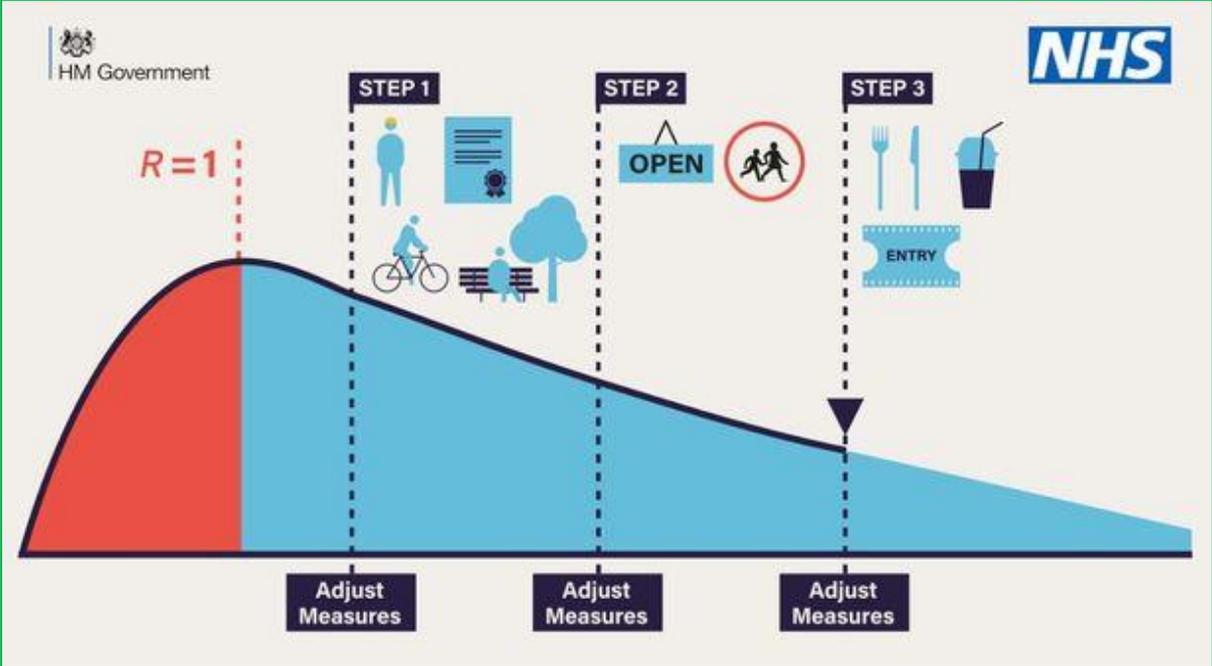
The government's stated ambition is to allow secondary pupils facing examinations in 2021 to spend some time with their teachers before the 2020 summer holidays, and detailed guidance on how all this may work is expected to cover schools, shops and transport.

Step 3 (at the earliest by July 2020):

Some parts of the hospitality industry and other public places may be opened – providing they are safe and can enforce social distancing.

The three steps are in outline and are conditional upon the rate of infection continuing to decline. The Prime Minister made it clear that should COVID-19 infections increase then further restrictions will need to be applied or reapplied.

The Prime Minister used the following graphic to depict the planned steps in the plan:

The Prime Minister highlighted the potential for reinfection from abroad and announced that 'it will soon be time' to impose quarantine on people coming to the UK by air. No further details were given.

There continues to remain differences in approach to the COVID-19 restrictions within the devolved administrations of Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales.

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Annex

RESOURCES: UK government guidance and related advice

REF	DOCUMENTS and OTHER SOURCES OF GUIDANCE	DATE ISSUED OR UPDATED
Adult social care		
R1	**Home care provision**	06/04/2020
R2	**Changes to Care Act 2014 allowing local authorities to prioritise care**	01/04/2020
R3	**How to work safely in care homes**	27/04/2020
R4	**Dedicated app for social care workers**	06/05/2020
Business and other venues – directions to close		
R5	**Closing certain businesses and venues**	09/04/2020
R6	**Designated power to issue fixed penalty notices by local authorities**	04/04/2020
R7	**Guidance for closing certain businesses**	27/03/2020
Business support and employment		
R8	**Guidance for employees, employers and businesses**	07/04/2020
R9	**Financial help for the self-employed**	26/03/2020
R10	**Are you covered under the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme?**	30/04/2020
R11	**Claiming wages through the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme**	30/04/2020
R12	**Grant funding scheme: guidance for local authorities – version 5**	24/04/2020
R13	**Business support – Frequently Asked Questions**	Website
R14	**Guidance for businesses on grant funding schemes: Version 5**	24/04/2020
R15	**Expanded retail discount 2020-2021: guidance for local authorities**	02/04/2020
R16	**Grant funding allocations by local authority in England**	24/04/2020
R17	**Grant payments made to businesses by local authority area in England**	03/05/2020
R18	**Procurement policy guidance to public bodies on payment of their suppliers**	17/04/2020
R19	**Increase to Working Tax Credits with effect from 6th April 2020**	07/04/2020
R20	**Guidance for local authorities on implementing the hardship fund**	March 2020
R21	**Step-by-step guidance for employers on claiming under Job Retention Scheme**	April 2020
R22	**Financial support for businesses: Headline terms for 'Future Fund'**	19/04/2020
R23	**Online support tool for employers and the self-employed**	Website

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R24	Business Improvement Districts to receive £6.1 million funding	01/05/2020
R25	Treasury Direction: Self-Employment Income Support Scheme arrangements	01/05/2020
R26	Bounce Back Loan Scheme: Letter from Chancellor to accredited lenders	01/05/2020
R27	Top-up discretionary business grant fund scheme for small businesses	02/05/2020
R28	Tax credits customers to be paid even if working less hours	04/05/2020
R29	How to apply for a Bounce Back Loan	04/05/2020
R30	Business rates revaluation postponed until 2021	06/05/2020
R31	New funding to support dairy farmers	06/05/2020

Children and young people

R32	Guidance on vulnerable children and young people	19/04/2020
R33	Guidance for parents & carers on looking after mental health of children	21/04/2020
R34	Guidance for children's social care services	06/05/2020

Construction sites

| R35 | Construction site operating procedures – version 3 | 14/04/2020 |

Deaths and bereavement

R36	Guidance for care of the deceased – for health professionals	20/04/2020
R37	Directions to councils in England to allow family members to attend funerals	17/04/2020
R38	Statutory guidance to local authorities in England on local death management	April 2020
R39	Guidance for managing a funeral during the pandemic	19/04/2020
R40	Collection of guidance for those involved in managing deaths	21/04/2020
R41	Information leaflet for the bereaved	April 2020
R42	Public Health England Data Series on Deaths in People with COVID-19	29/04/2020
R43	New daily reporting for all deaths in England (press release)	29/04/2020
R44	Chief Coroner's Note 34 – guidance for coroners	26/03/2020
R45	Chief Coroner's Note 35 – hearings during the pandemic	27/03/2020
R46	Chief Coroner's Note 36 – Coronavirus Act: provisions relevant to coroners	30/03/2020
R47	Chief Coroner's Note 37 and possible exposure in the workplace	28/04/2020
R48	Verification of deaths in times of emergency	06/05/2020

Education settings and vocational training

R49	Collection of guidance for schools and other educational settings	04/05/2020
R50	Information for parents and carers about schools & other educational settings	01/05/2020
R51	Guidance for schools and councils on maintaining educational provision	19/04/2020

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R52	**Guidance on temporary closure of schools in England**	28/04/2020
R53	**Safeguarding guidance for schools, colleges and other premises in England**	27/03/2020
R54	**Guidance on maintaining further education**	24/04/2020
R55	**Guidance for head teachers on awarding qualifications in summer 2020**	April 2020
R56	**Guidance for teachers, students, parents and carers on educational grades**	April 2020
R57	**Summer 2020 results for vocational, technical and other qualifications**	30/04/2020
R58	**Free school meals guidance**	30/04/2020
R59	**Guidance for apprentices, employers, training providers and assessors**	24/04/2020
R60	**Funding to support schools with exceptional costs**	07/04/2020
R61	**Cancellation of GCSEs, AS and A levels: Frequently Asked Questions**	01/05/2020
R62	**Special schools managing children with complex needs (SEND)**	07/05/2020
R63	**Induction for newly qualified teachers**	01/05/2020
R64	**Actions for higher education providers and support for universities & students**	04/05/2020
R65	**International travel advice for educational settings**	05/05/2020
R66	**Awarding qualifications in 2020: Ofqual update following consultation**	06/05/2020
R67	**School attendance of children and teachers since 23rd March 2020**	06/05/2020
R68	**Examples of remote education practice from schools & academies in England**	06/05/2020
R69	**Oak National Academy – an online teaching resource for teachers**	Website
R70	**BBC Bitesize: support for students in primary and secondary schools**	Website
Food hygiene		
R71	**Guidance for consumers on how to maintain food hygiene**	25/04/2020
Glossary of terms used in UK government guidance		
R72	**Glossary**	27/04/2020
Healthcare professionals and hospital settings		
R73	**Background information (epidemiology, virology and clinical features)**	29/04/2020
R74	**Collection of guidance for healthcare professionals and others**	27/04/2020
R75	**Management of exposed healthcare workers & patients in hospital**	23/04/2020
R76	**Guidance for ambulance trusts**	11/04/2020
R77	**Guidance for first responders**	24/03/2020
R78	**Guidance for taking swab samples**	23/04/2020
R79	**Infection prevention and control**	27/04/2020
R80	**Hospital discharge service requirements**	19/03/2020

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| R81 | **Infection control precautions when discharging from hospital to home** | 23/04/2020 |

Homecare (domiciliary care)		
R82	**PPE for care workers delivering home care in England**	30/04/2020
R83	**Putting on PPE for home carers**	30/04/2020
R84	**Taking off PPE for home carers**	30/04/2020
R85	**Over one million food boxes delivered to those most at risk in England**	06/05/2020
R86	**Guidance for people who receive direct payments for care and support**	07/05/2020

International		
R87	**Guidance for UK businesses trading internationally**	24/04/2020
R88	**UK financial assistance to help reduce mass infections in developing countries**	12/04/2020
R89	**PPE export control process for UK companies trading internationally**	05/05/2020
R90	**How the FCO processes your data if you apply for an emergency loan abroad**	26/06/2018
R91	**The British Gurkhas rescue Brits stranded in Nepal (video)**	07/05/2020

| **Laboratories** | | |
| R93 | **Guidance for organisations with laboratory testing capability** | 09/04/2020 |

Laws and regulations		
R94	**Coronavirus Act 2020**	25/03/2020
R95	**Coronavirus Act 2020: table setting out the status of each measure**	07/05/2020
R96	**The Health Protection (Coronavirus) Regulations 2020**	10/02/2020
R97	**The Health Protection (Coronavirus, Restrictions)(England) Regulations 2020**	26/03/2020
R98	**Domestic Abuse Bill**	03/03/2020
R99	**The Adoption and Children (Coronavirus)(Amendment) Regulations 2020**	24/04/2020

Local authorities		
R100	**Guidance to local authorities for controlling fraud**	March 2020
R101	**Guidance to local authorities in England on prioritising waste collections**	07/04/2020
R102	**Postponement of elections**	06/04/2020
R103	**Mitigating impacts on Gypsy and traveller Communities**	01/05/2020
R104	**Guidance to local authorities in England on prioritising waste collections**	06/05/2020
R105	**25 local councils pledge to continue vital residential building safety work**	06/05/2020

| **Medicines and healthcare products** | | |
| R106 | **Medicines & Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) : collection** | 07/05/2020 |

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	Mental health	
R107	**Mental health helplines**	March 2020
R108	**Support and practical guidance for those suffering with mental health issues**	31/03/2020
R109	**Easy-read guide: looking after your feelings and body**	March 2020
R110	**Health and social care staff who care for people lacking mental capacity**	09/04/2020
	Office for Budget Responsibility (OBR)	
R111	**Coronavirus analysis and implications for the UK economy**	30/04/2020
	Personal protective equipment (PPE)	
R112	**PPE use for aerosol generating procedures**	10/04/2020
R113	**PPE use for non-aerosol generating procedures**	08/04/2020
R114	**Management of exposed healthcare workers and patients in hospitals**	23/04/2020
R115	**Coronavirus Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Hub**	18/04/2020
R116	**Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Plan**	10/04/2020
R117	**VAT removed from PPE purchases for three months (press release)**	01/05/2020
R118	**Millions more items of PPE to be provided through UK business partnerships**	08/05/2020
	Procurement policy guidance to public bodies	
R119	**Payment to suppliers of public bodies**	17/04/2020
	Public information	
R120	**Coronavirus: action plan – A guide to what you can expect across the UK**	03/03/2020
R121	**NHS health advice for everyone**	March 2020
R122	**Stay at home guidance for households with possible coronavirus infection**	28/04/2020
R123	**Parliamentary Inquiry by Parliamentary Women & Equalities Committee**	30/03/2020
R124	**Prime Minister's letter to the nation**	23/03/2020
R125	**Coronavirus public information leaflet**	23/03/2020
R126	**Coronavirus easy-read public information leaflet**	April 2020
R127	**Frequently asked questions: what you can and cannot do**	01/05/2020
R128	**Video explanation about the rate of infection value known as 'R'**	01/02/2020
R129	**British Sign Language COVID-19 information accessible via SIGNHEALTH**	Website
R130	**Emergency funding to support most vulnerable in society**	02/05/2020
R131	**List of critical workers who can send their children to school**	06/05/2020
	Rapidly Manufactured Ventilator System Project	
R132	**Indemnities granted to manufacturers**	April 2020

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	Renting and landlords	
R133	**Non-statutory renting guidance for landlords, tenants and local authorities**	28/03/2020
	Restoration of NHS services	
R134	**Fertility clinics to re-open from 11th May 2020**	01/05/2020
	Rough sleepers	
R135	**Dame Louise Casey to lead government specialist task force on rough sleeping**	02/05/2020
	Scientific advice	
R136	**Scientific Advisory Group for Emergencies (SAGE): COVID-19 guidance**	Website
R137	**Scientific Advisory Group for Emergencies (SAGE) membership**	07/05/2020
R138	**Scientific evidence supporting the UK government response**	06/05/2020
	Security	
R139	**Guidance on cyber security and home working**	02/04/2020
R140	**'Silent Solution' - contacting the police by mobile phone if you cannot speak**	07/04/2019
R141	**Support for victims of domestic abuse announced by Home Secretary**	11/04/2020
R142	**Directions given to the NHS to disclose cyber security information to GCHQ**	03/04/2020
R143	***Thinkuknow* programme to protect children when using devices online**	Website
R144	**Domestic abuse safe accommodation: emergency support fund**	07/05/2020
R145	**Countering online child sexual exploitation and abuse during the pandemic**	08/05/2020
R146	**Voluntary Principles to counter online child sexual exploitation and abuse**	08/05/2020
	Staying at home and away from others (social distancing)	
R147	**Staying at home and away from others (social distancing)**	01/05/2020
R148	**Measures to protect people at higher risk from Coronavirus**	17/04/2020
R149	**Easy-read guide on protecting extremely vulnerable people**	March 2020
R150	**How to help safely: guidance**	23/04/2020
	Testing and vaccines	
R151	**Status Tracker: tell the NHS about your experience of coronavirus**	Website
R152	**Government plans for scaling up testing programmes**	Website
R153	**Guidance on COVID-19 testing for frontline workers who are self-isolating**	03/04/2020
R154	**Testing arrangements for essential workers in England with symptoms**	29/04/2020
R155	**Booking tests: User guide for essential workers in England with symptoms**	29/04/2020

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R156	**Mobile testing units to test frontline workers**	29/04/2020
R157	**Drug trials could be fast-tracked through new clinical trial initiative**	26/04/2020
R158	**Testing for coronavirus: privacy information**	30/04/2020
R159	**Test, track and trace plan launched on the Isle of Wight**	04/05/2020
R160	**New biological reagent available to support global diagnostic testing**	06/05/2020
	Transport and travel	
R161	**Guidance and advice to avoid non-essential travel in the UK**	22/03/2020
R162	**Safety guidance for towpaths and waterways from the Canal and River Trust**	22/03/2020
R163	**Government data sources and methodology for gathering transport use data**	Website
R164	**Driver and rider trainers in England, Scotland and Wales – DVSA guidance**	22/04/2020
R165	**£2 billion fund for cycling and walking - reducing public transport use**	09/05/2020
R166	**Statutory guidance for local authorities on managing their road networks**	09/05/2020
R167	**Temporary road signs for pedestrians, drivers and cyclists**	09/05/2020
	Trials and volunteers	
R168	**Volunteering for the National Health Service: Good Samaritan app**	Website
	World Health Organisation	
R169	**World Health Organisation**	Website