

New campaign to prevent spread of coronavirus indoors this winter

- The spread of coronavirus, particularly in enclosed spaces is shown in a new film, produced with experts in the field, which highlights the risk in simple, everyday interactions
- The campaign will run across TV, radio, print, out of home, social and digital display advertising

A new science based public information campaign will be launched ahead of winter to highlight how everyone can help to stop the spread of the virus by remembering to wash their hands, cover their face and make space.

'Hands. Face. Space' will run across TV, radio, print, out of home, social and digital display advertising, as well as on community media channels and will be supported by a variety of public and private sector partners throughout the coming weeks.

As part of this campaign, a new video is being released to show exactly how coronavirus spreads indoors. With people expected to spend more time inside during the winter, the film – produced with the help of scientific experts – encourages the public to follow simple steps to reduce the risk of infection.

Through a scientifically based reconstruction of everyday scenarios the film shows how the interactions between people, surfaces and the air spread the virus. The film also reflects how coronavirus spreads through droplets that come out of our nose and mouth. This is a powerful reminder to the public of the importance of remaining aware of their surroundings and following the guidance.

Chief Medical Officer Professor Chris Whitty said:

As we approach winter and inevitably spend more time indoors, we need the public to keep following this important advice to control the spread of the virus.

'Hands. Face. Space' emphasises important elements of the guidance we want everybody to remember: wash your hands regularly, use a face covering when social distancing is not possible and try to keep your distance from those not in your household.

Following these simple steps could make a significant difference in reducing the transmission of COVID-19 and help protect you and your friends, colleagues and family from the virus.

The compelling evidence combined with expert recommendations around 'Hands. Face. Space' includes:

Washing your hands

While coronavirus is not likely to survive for long periods of time on outdoor surfaces in sunlight, it can live for more than 24 hours in indoor environments ([see endnote 1](#)). Washing your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, or using hand sanitizer, regularly throughout the day will reduce the risk of catching or passing on the virus ([see endnote 2](#)).

Covering your face

Coronavirus is carried in the air by tiny respiratory droplets that carry the virus. Larger droplets can land on other people or on surfaces they touch while smaller droplets, called aerosols, can stay in the air indoors for at least 5 minutes, and often much longer if there is no ventilation ([see endnote 3](#)). Face coverings reduce the dispersion of these droplets, meaning if you're carrying the virus you're less likely to spread it when you exhale ([see endnote 4](#)).

Making space

Transmission of the virus is most likely to happen within 2 metres, with risk increasing exponentially at shorter distances ([see endnote 5](#)). While keeping this exact distance isn't always possible, remaining mindful of surroundings and continuing to make space has a powerful impact when it comes to containing the spread.

While coronavirus deaths have significantly reduced, the virus is still circulating in communities and impacting people of all ages across the UK. 'Hands. Face. Space' are simple but vital behaviours that have the power to protect the public from both the short and potential long-term impact of coronavirus.

Professor Catherine Noakes, part of the Scientific Advisory Group for Emergencies (SAGE) who specialises in airborne infections said:

Coronavirus is emitted in tiny droplets when we breathe, talk, laugh or cough. Other people can be exposed to these when they are close to someone with the virus or they are in a poorly ventilated room for a long time.

Wearing a face covering prevents most of these droplets from being released into the air, and can also reduce the number of droplets that you are exposed to. That is why wearing a face covering serves as a vital first line of defence against catching and spreading the virus, along with regular and thorough handwashing with soap and water and maintaining a safe distance wherever possible.

Poppy, 27 from London and suffering from long-term COVID-19 symptoms:

There is a worrying trend at the moment for people who don't consider themselves as being at a high-risk group to be dismissive of how the virus may impact them. Before having coronavirus, I was fit and healthy. Now 6 months after supposedly recovering, I'm still dealing with the aftermath of the virus which affects my everyday life. You really don't know how this will impact you and just because you're not classed as vulnerable – doesn't mean you're not at risk.

The public are encouraged to continue to be vigilant of coronavirus symptoms which include a new continuous cough, high temperature, or a loss or change in your sense of taste or smell. If you or someone you know, displays any symptoms, no matter how mild, please get a free test by calling 119 or visiting NHS.uk

Background information

Assets

Additional information about the Test and Trace approach

The new NHS Test and Trace service helps identify, contain and control coronavirus, reduce the spread of the virus and save lives. We all have a vital role to play in tackling coronavirus and NHS Test and Trace will help us return life to as close to normal as possible in a way that is safe and avoids a second peak.

If you have coronavirus symptoms you must self-isolate immediately with other members of your household and book a test on the website: nhs.uk/coronavirus or via 119.

Those who have tested positive for coronavirus will be contacted by the service by text, email or phone – and asked to share information about their recent close contacts. Close contacts could include household members, people with whom they have been in direct contact, or within 2 metres for more than 15 minutes.

Endnotes

Endnote 1: van Doremalen N, Bushmaker T, Morris DH, et al. Aerosol and Surface Stability of SARS-CoV2 as Compared with SARS-CoV-1. N Engl J Med 2020; 382(16): 1564-7

Endnote 2: Beale S, Johnson A, Zambon M, null n, Hayward A, Fragaszy E. Hand Hygiene Practices and the Risk of Human Coronavirus Infections in a UK Community Cohort [version 1; peer review: 1 approved]. Wellcome Open Research 2020; 5(98).

Endnote 3: A. C. Fears et al., "Persistence of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus 2 in Aerosol Suspensions," Emerg. Infect. Dis., vol. 26, no. 9, Sep. 2020, doi: 10.3201/eid2609.201806.

Endnote 4: D. K. Milton, M. P. Fabian, B. J. Cowling, M. L. Grantham, and J. J. McDevitt, "Influenza Virus Aerosols in Human Exhaled Breath: Particle Size, Culturability, and Effect of Surgical Masks," *PLoS Pathog.*, vol. 9, no. 3, 2013, doi: 10.1371/journal.ppat.1003205.

Endnote 5: W. Chen, N. Zhang, J. Wei, H. Yen, and Y. Li, "Short-range airborne route dominates exposure of respiratory infection during close contact," *Build. Environ.*, pp. 1–33, 2020, doi: 10.1016/j.buildenv.2020.106859

[Consumers and businesses to be given more control of data under new laws](#)

- Greater legal powers to see companies facilitate new services that drive better deals and savings for consumers, by sharing customer data, at their request, with authorised third parties
- Smart Data is already widely used in banking, making it easier for consumers and SMEs to manage bank accounts, for example by viewing several bank accounts in a single app
- legislation will improve competition, giving more choice and lower prices to customers with potential to benefit consumers and small businesses by £18 billion a year

Consumers and small businesses will benefit from better deals and savings through innovative services, thanks to new Smart Data laws proposed by government.

Smart Data enables businesses to provide consumers with more intuitive, easy-to-use services such as better account and bill management, switching services for savings, and targeted support for vulnerable consumers, by allowing businesses to share customer data with authorised third-party providers in an easy and secure way. For example, Smart Data has facilitated services which could alert a vulnerable consumer's trusted contact (such as a family member or friend) if there is unusual activity on a bank account.

New laws will see more sectors, such as communications like broadband, taking advantage of Smart Data to drive competition and innovation, while providing more choices and lower prices for consumers. The powers would make it possible for government to mandate industry involvement in Smart Data initiatives across the economy where they are not participating already, subject to sector-specific assessment and consultation.

A Smart Data joint government-regulator working group will also be set up to accelerate existing Smart Data initiatives and coordinate action across government, it was announced today (Wednesday 9 September). This will involve

representatives from Smart Data initiatives already in development, with individuals drawn from pioneering sectors including communications, energy, finance and pensions.

Minister for Small Businesses and Consumers Paul Scully said:

This government is committed to transforming our economy so pioneering businesses can thrive and consumers can save time and money.

Innovative businesses across the UK are already using Smart Data to find new solutions to age-old problems, revolutionising everything from invoicing through to automatic account switching.

It's vital we harness this technology across the whole of our economy. The roll out of Smart Data into new sectors such as communications will help support even more cutting-edge start-ups and could boost businesses and consumers by a staggering £18 billion a year.

Peter Tutton, Head of Policy, Research and Public Affairs at StepChange Debt Charity said:

As we have seen from other initiatives such as Open Banking, Smart Data can work to improve markets and help those who are financially vulnerable get better deals, taking some of the edges off their vulnerability.

We warmly welcome the BEIS announcement today. It's absolutely essential that the emerging infrastructure delivers a secure, regulated approach to data sharing that doesn't leave vulnerable consumers behind. In supporting those at risk of exclusion, this will bring a much needed joined-up approach across regulators and to Smart Data initiatives more generally.

Tris Dyson, Managing Director at Nesta Challenges, said:

We welcome today's announcement from the government. Smart Data in banking is already paying dividends for customers and creating whole new categories of innovation.

We believe that extending Smart Data initiatives to other sectors that are ripe for innovation, like telecommunications and energy, could take the opportunities for consumers, SMEs and innovators to a whole new level.

Jeni Tennison, Vice President and Chief Strategy Adviser at Open Data Institute, said:

Giving individuals and organisations access to data held about them by the services they use opens up possibilities for insight, innovation and empowerment.

Regulators can be great enablers for Smart Data, promoting access, interoperability and trustworthy data practices, so it is great to see the government take another step to equip them to take on that role.

The UK has led the way globally with Open Banking, the most advanced Smart Data initiative, which has helped more than a million users easily share their data with trusted third parties – in turn helping consumers and SMEs better manage their expenses, reduce administration and save money.

Research ([1](#)) shows innovations by companies in the banking sector using Open Banking hold the potential to benefit consumers and SMEs by £18 billion every year for example by making it seamless to switch to the best deals and avoid fees.

In June 2019, the government launched the Smart Data Review to consult on expanding Smart Data beyond banking.

The response – [Next Steps for Smart Data](#) – published today, sets out our plans to introduce primary legislation to make it possible to mandate industry involvement in Smart Data initiatives across the economy.

This power could be used in the regulated sectors, such as communications, as set out in the Smart Data Review. It will also make it possible, when and if appropriate, to extend Smart Data to other sectors such as retail and transport.

Possible uses for Smart Data include:

- communications (such as telephone, broadband provision): improved product comparison, viewing all your bills in one place, or easier management across accounts, which could even be designed specifically for vulnerable consumers
- energy: similar initiatives, such as automatic switching services to ensure customers get the best suited deals with minimal effort required
- finance: Smart Data could extend the benefits we have seen in banking and help consumers better navigate and manage their savings, mortgages, consumer credit, investments, pensions, and insurance
- retail: enabling consumers to find better deals for large items of expenditure, such as the weekly grocery shop

The government will introduce primary legislation when parliamentary time allows.

These new laws form part of the government's National Data Strategy, which will boost the use of data to drive growth, boost innovation, create new jobs and improve public services.

Notes to editors

- Firms are already mandated to participate in Smart Data equivalent schemes in banking (via the Payment Services Directive) and there are plans to mandate participation in pensions (via the Pensions Bill introduced in Spring 2020)
- we are now proposing to introduce legislation, when Parliamentary time allows, to improve government's ability to mandate participation in Smart Data initiatives in any sector
- the most likely first sector in which we expect the legislation to be used is communications
- the use of the powers in any specific sector will require further consideration of the circumstances in the sector
- the [Smart Data working group](#) will be led by the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, and involve representatives from the Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport, HM Treasury, the Department for Work and Pensions, the Office of Gas and Electricity Markets, The Office of Communications, the Financial Conduct Authority, the Competition and Markets Authority, the UK Regulators Network, and the Information Commissioner's Office
- a [Terms of Reference](#) for the working group has been published alongside the consultation response

References

1. OBIE representatives, June 2019: ["Consumer Priorities for Open Banking"](#)
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[Public Health England launches new Every Mind Matters campaign](#)

Most families have experienced upheaval in their daily lives during the pandemic. With children and young people now back at school or college, the new Public Health England (PHE) [Better Health – Every Mind Matters campaign](#) provides NHS-endorsed tips and advice to help children and young people's mental wellbeing, and equip parents and carers with the knowledge to support them.

Research reveals that the COVID-19 outbreak has caused an increase in anxiety in young people.

What's more, over two-fifths (41%) of children and young people said they were more lonely than before lockdown and more than a third said they were more worried (38%), more sad (37%) or more stressed (34%).

New PHE survey data found that two-thirds of parents say their children's

behaviour has changed since the start of the pandemic (69%) and when asked their top 3 worries around COVID-19, over half (52%) said the mental wellbeing of their children topped the list of their biggest worries.

As we adapt to a new normal many parents and carers anticipate their children will experience new stresses. This includes facing the challenges of catching up with missed education, starting new schools or colleges and building relationships with friends again.

Nearly a quarter of parents surveyed say that not knowing what action to take has prevented them supporting their children's mental wellbeing (22%), and more than a third (38%) want more advice on how to support their mental wellbeing when returning to school.

The new advice available on the [Every Mind Matters website](#) has been developed in partnership with leading children and young people's mental health charities, including [Young Minds](#), [The Mix](#), [Place2Be](#) and [The Anna Freud Centre](#). It is designed to help parents and carers spot the signs that children may be struggling with their mental health and support them, and also provides advice that can help maintain good mental wellbeing. The site also provides tools to help young people build resilience and equips them to look after their mental wellbeing.

To engage parents and carers, a powerful short film has been created featuring a number of celebrity parents including Davina McCall, Marvin Humes, Sean Fletcher, Katie Piper and Edith Bowman, reading extracts from bestselling author Charlie Mackesy's book, 'The Boy, The Mole, The Fox and The Horse'. The emotive extracts all touch upon mental health and aim to encourage parents to visit [Every Mind Matters](#).

NHS's Top 5 Tips for supporting children and young people's mental wellbeing as they go back out into the world (please view all tips on [Every Mind Matters website](#)):

1. Be there to listen
Ask the children and young people you look after how they are doing regularly so they get used to speaking about their feelings.
2. Stay involved in their life
Show interest in their life and the things that are important to them.
3. Support positive routines
Be a positive role model and support positive behaviours including regular bedtime routines, healthy eating and getting active.
4. Encourage their interests
Being active, creative, learning things and being a part of a team are all good for mental health. Support children and young people to explore their interests.
5. Take what they say seriously
Help the children and young people you look after feel valued in what they say and help them work through difficult emotions.

The website also encourages parents to complete a personal 'Mind Plan', a quick and free interactive tool offering adults tailored mental wellbeing

advice. More than 2.4 million 'Mind Plans' have been completed since launch in October 2019.

Dr Yvonne Doyle, Medical Director and Director of Health Protection at Public Health England, said:

Parents' and carers' relationships with their children are special and we want to give them the support they need. Being there to listen and encouraging them to explain how they feel can make a real difference to how children and young people cope with life's challenges. It can also help them develop effective skills to cope with their emotions.

Nadine Dorries, Minister for Mental Health, said:

The effects of the pandemic on children and young people's mental health have been challenging and it is vital we continue to do all we can to protect them and prevent long-term effects.

Young people should feel encouraged to speak up, look out for each other, and ask for help. This campaign and these resources are a great way to access support and help parents to understand steps they can take to care even more for their children's mental health and wellbeing.

Professor Prathiba Chitsabesan, NHS England Associate National Clinical Director for Children and Young People's Mental Health, said:

As young people go back to class, it's understandable that while many will be excited to get back, some may also have concerns and anxieties about the new academic year, following the uncertainty and upheaval of COVID, which is why this important campaign is offering practical tips to help kids cope.

Parents, carers, teachers and students should also be reassured that the NHS has been and will continue to be there for everyone with concerns about their mental health, whether through 24/7 crisis support lines, video and phone consultations, or face to face appointments.

Emma Thomas, Chief Executive of YoungMinds, said:

The coronavirus pandemic has had a huge impact on the lives of children and young people across the country and many have struggled with social isolation, anxiety and fears about what the future holds.

We know how important it is for young people to get early support for their mental health when problems first start to emerge. This is a welcome and much-needed campaign, and we hope that it will provide young people with the resources to support their mental health and to seek help if they need it. We also hope that it will ensure parents and carers have the tools to support their children's wellbeing and help them adjust in the coming months.

Davina McCall, TV presenter, said:

Children have missed out on so much during lockdown and like lots of other parents, I've wanted to support mine as much as I possibly can. As we're starting to go back to normality and there's still lots of uncertainty for our kids, it's important we're there for them through their ups and downs – communication is so important. For anyone that's concerned or worried, or just want some tips on how to support them, please search Every Mind Matters.

The new Better Health – Every Mind Matters campaign will be supported through social media, radio and press activity, helping to reach audiences including parents and carers of children and young people (aged 5 to 18) and young people (aged 13 to 18).

Search [Every Mind Matters](#) for expert tips and advice to support children and young people with their mental wellbeing.

PM press conference statement: 9 September 2020

Good afternoon,

Welcome back to Downing Street for an update on coronavirus as we enter autumn and approach winter.

I will first hand over to Chris to take us through the latest data before I set out how we are responding to it.

Thank you Chris. It is clear from that very powerful graphic that we must act.

The most important thing every one of us must do is remember the basics.

First, wash your hands, regularly and for 20 seconds. Don't get back into old habits, it is so vital.

Second, wear a face covering over your mouth and nose if you are in an enclosed space and in close contact with people you don't normally meet. I know wearing a face covering feels odd to some people and I understand that. But face coverings do make it harder for the virus to spread – so please, wear one to protect others.

Third, make space. Always stay 2 metres away from people you don't live with – or 1 metre with extra precautions, like extra ventilation, screens, or face coverings.

Fourth, if you have COVID symptoms, get a test and self-isolate. We are now processing 1.2 million tests a week. To date we have carried out 15.4 million antigen tests – that's more than any other country in Europe, and more per head than other European countries like Germany and Spain.

We are increasing our testing capacity further to meet rising demand. You can help by only booking a test if you have a fever, a new continuous cough, or you've lost your sense of taste or smell – if you don't have those symptoms and haven't been asked to book a test, please don't.

So those are the basics – hands, face, space – and get a test if you have COVID symptoms.

Since the pandemic began, we have asked you to reduce your social contact and limit your interactions with friends and family.

I know that, over time, the rules have become quite complicated and confusing. We have spoken to police officers about what they need for an effective enforcement regime and of course, listened to the feedback from you, the public.

In response, we are simplifying and strengthening the rules – making them easier for you to understand and for the police to enforce.

I should stress that if we are to beat the virus then everyone, at all times, should limit social contact as much as possible and minimise interactions with other households. It is safer to meet outdoors and you should keep your distance from anyone you don't live with, even if they are close friends or family.

So in England, from Monday, we are introducing the rule of 6. You must not meet socially in groups of more than 6 – and if you do, you will be breaking the law.

This will apply in any setting, indoors or outdoors, at home or in the pub.

The ban will be set out in law and it will be enforced by the police – anyone breaking the rules risks being dispersed, fined and possibly arrested.

This single measure replaces both the existing ban on gatherings of more than 30 and the current guidance on allowing 2 households to meet indoors. Now you only need to remember the rule of 6.

There will be some limited exemptions. For example, if a single household or support bubble is larger than 6, they can still gather.

COVID Secure venues like places of worship, gyms, restaurants and hospitality venues can still hold more than 6 people in total. Within those venues however, there must not be individual groups larger than 6, and groups must not mix socially or form larger groups.

Education and work settings are unaffected, COVID Secure weddings and funerals can go ahead, up to a limit of 30 people, and organised sport will still be able to proceed.

As we have found on previous occasions, this rule of 6 will of course throw up difficult cases. For example, two whole households will no longer be able to meet if they would together exceed the limit of 6 people.

I am sorry about that and I wish that we did not have to take this step. But, as your Prime Minister, I must do what is necessary to stop the spread of the virus and to save lives.

We will of course keep the rule of 6 under constant review and only keep it in place as long as it's necessary.

I also want to see – and the public wants to see – stronger enforcement of the rules which are already in place. So I've have tasked the Cabinet with increasing enforcement and I would like to thank the police, as always, and other authorities for the work they are doing to keep us all safe.

In future:

- Premises and venues where people meet socially will be legally required to request the contact details of a member of every party, record and retain these details for 21 days, and provide them to NHS Test & Trace without delay when required.
- We will support local authorities to make further and faster use of their powers to close venues that are breaking the rules and pose a risk to public health.
- Fines will be levied against hospitality venues that fail to ensure their premises remain COVID Secure.
- We will boost the enforcement capacity of local authorities by introducing COVID Secure Marshalls to help ensure social distancing in town and city centres, and by setting up a register of Environmental Health Officers that local authorities can draw upon for support.
- We will simplify the Passenger Locator Form needed for travelling to the UK, and take measures to ensure these are completed and checked before departure.
- Border Force will step up enforcement efforts at the border to ensure arrivals are complying with the quarantine rules.
- We will also restrict the opening hours of premises, initially in some local areas.

At the present time we must also, I'm afraid, revise plans to pilot larger

audiences in venues later this month and review our intention to return audiences to stadiums and conference centres from 1 October. That doesn't mean we're going to scrap the programme entirely it just means we are going to review and abridge it, and the Culture Secretary will say more shortly.

Let me be clear – these measures are not a second national lockdown – the whole point of them is to avoid a second national lockdown.

By bearing down on social contact and improving enforcement, we can keep schools and businesses open, in the knowledge they are COVID Secure.

I have always said schools and colleges should only ever be shut again as a very, very last resort. As the Chief Medical Officer and Chief Scientific Adviser have said, the long term risks to children's life chances of not going to school are significant and far greater than the health risks of going back to school.

Indeed it's been fantastic to see so many children back in school this term and I want, once again, to thank all our teachers, and to reassure parents and pupils that schools are safe.

University terms will also begin soon. Opening universities is critical, again, for students' life chances and, again, the health risks to individuals are low.

Of course, many university students are in the age bracket where we have seen the infection rates rise recently as Chris was just explaining. My message to students is simple. Please, for the sake of your education and your parents' and your grandparents' health: wash your hands, cover your face, make space, and don't socially gather in groups of more than 6, now and when term starts.

Today the Department for Education is publishing updated guidance for universities on how they can operate in a COVID Secure way, including a clear request not to send students home in the event of an outbreak, so as to avoid spreading the virus across the country. I am very grateful to universities for their continued cooperation and planning for the return of students.

The measures I have set out today will help us control the virus but won't, on their own, be enough to allow a more significant return to normality.

Patrick is going to set out in a moment where we are on vaccines and treatments in a moment, but we are not there yet and there are no guarantees.

So over the summer, we have therefore been working up an alternative plan which could allow life to return closer to normality. And that plan is based on mass testing.

Up to now, we have used testing primarily to identify people who are positive – so we can isolate them from the community and protect high risk groups. And that will continue to be our priority. We are working hard to increase our testing capacity to 500,000 tests a day by the end of October.

But in future, in the near future, we want to start using testing to identify

people who are negative – who don't have coronavirus and who are not infectious – so we can allow them to behave in a more normal way, in the knowledge they cannot infect anyone else with the virus.

And we think, we hope, we believe that new types of test which are simple, quick and scalable will become available. They use swabs or saliva and can turn round results in 90 or even 20 minutes. Crucially, it should be possible to deploy these tests on a far bigger scale than any country has yet achieved – literally millions of tests processed every single day.

That level of testing would allow people to lead more normal lives, without the need for social distancing:

Theatres and sports venues could test all audience members on the day and let in those with a negative result, all those who are not infectious. Workplaces could be opened up to all those who test negative that morning and allow them to behave in a way that was normal before COVID. Those isolating because they are a contact, or quarantining after travelling abroad, could after a period be tested and released. Now that is an ambitious agenda, but we are going to pilot this approach in Salford from next month, with audiences in indoor and outdoor venues. And then we hope to go nationwide.

There are a number of challenges. We need the technology to work. We need to source the necessary materials to manufacture so many tests. We need to put in place an efficient distribution network. And we need to work through the numerous logistical challenges.

And as I say, we are not there yet, and I should repeat that, as we manage this period of high demand, it is especially important that if individuals don't have symptoms, and have not been specifically advised to take a test, they should not be coming forward for a test – because they could be taking a test away from someone who really needs it.

Our plan – this moonshot that I am describing – will require a giant, collaborative effort from government, business, public health professionals, scientists, logistics experts and many, many more.

Work is underway – and we will get on at pace until we get there, round the clock.

We are hopeful this approach will be widespread by the spring and, if everything comes together, it may be possible even for challenging sectors like theatres to have life much closer to normal before Christmas.

But as I have said before, all this progress is contingent on continued scientific advances and though we're hopeful, I cannot 100% guarantee that those advances will be made.

That is why it is so important that we take these tough measures now.

I believe we will continue to drive this virus down and that we will beat this virus before too long.

So let's work together and follow the rules: meet in groups of no more than six. Wash your hands, cover your face, and make space.

I will now hand over to Patrick to set out the latest on vaccines and treatments, and then we'll go to questions from the public and the media.

Change of Her Majesty's Ambassador to Libya: Nicholas Hopton

Press release

Mr Nicholas Hopton has been appointed Her Majesty's Ambassador to Libya in succession to Mr Martin Reynolds CMG.



Full name: Nicholas Dunster Hopton

Married to: Alejandra Hopton de Echenique

Children: 5

2019 to present Tripoli, Chargé d'Affaires
2019 FC0, Director, EU (External and Security)
2016 to 2018 Tehran, Her Majesty's Ambassador
2015 to 2016 Tehran, Chargé d'Affaires
2013 to 2015 Doha, Her Majesty's Ambassador
2012 to 2013 Sana'a, Her Majesty's Ambassador
2011 Full-Time Language Training (Arabic)
2011 Director (Acting) Multilateral Policy Directorate
2008 to 2011 FC0, Head, International Organisations Department
2008 No 10, Policy Unit
2007 to 2008 Cabinet Office, National Security Strategy Team
2003 to 2007 Paris, Counsellor (EU and Economic)

2000 to 2003	Rome, First Secretary (Foreign and Security Policy)
1998 to 2000	FCO, Private Secretary to the Minister for Europe
1997 to 1998	FCO, Agenda 2000 Section Head, European Union Department (Internal)
1995 to 1997	FCO, Press Officer, News Department / Resource Planning Department
1991 to 1995	Rabat (and Nouakchott), Second Secretary (Political/Information)
1990 to 1991	FCO, Assistant Desk Officer, European Community Department (External)
1989	FCO, Assistant Desk Officer, Middle East Department
1989	Joined FCO

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