

**Lockdown and COVID-19 Restrictions timeline in Wales 2020 - 2022**

**2020**

**20 March 2020 - Closure of schools, hospitality and leisure facilities**

**From 23 March first lockdown – non-essential retail, schools, range of businesses closed (UK nations enter lockdown together)**

**From Mon 1 June**

- 2 households in the same local able to meet outdoors.
- Stay local - not generally travelling more than 5 miles from home to reduce the risk of coronavirus spreading from one area to another.
- Allowing weddings and civil partnerships to take place if the bride or groom is terminally ill.

**From Mon 22 June**

- All non-essential retail allowed to reopen.
- Enabling private prayer in places of worship where social distancing is maintained and gatherings do not take place
- Restarting the housing market by enabling house viewings to take place in vacant properties and house moves where a sale has been agreed but not yet completed
- Lifting the restrictions on outdoor sports courts but social distancing must be maintained. No contact or team sports allowed.
- Enabling non-professional elite athletes, including Olympic and Paralympic hopefuls, to resume training.

**From Mon 29 June**

- Pupils to return to school for check in, catch up sessions.

**From Mon 6 July**

- Stay local lifted. The legal requirement to stay local (and the associated guidance about the 5-mile rule of thumb) no longer applies.

- People from 2 separate households able to join together to form one exclusive, extended household. But they can only be part of one extended household.

#### **From Saturday 11 July**

- Self-contained accommodation in the tourism industry can re-open.

#### **From Monday 13 July**

- Vast majority of indoor attractions able to reopen.
- Organised outdoor activities can resume, including team sports, sports classes and other activities, such as dance and fitness classes, where these can be conducted outdoors.
- Hairdressers and barbers, including mobile hairdressers, re-open.
- Bars, pubs, cafes and restaurants able to open outdoors for the first time since lockdown, marking a major step forward for our hospitality industry.
- Changes to the social distancing rules. The law in Wales will continue to make a two metre social distance the default position, because that is the safest way to protect health. But our regulations now also make provision for businesses where exceptional circumstances mean that a maintaining 2m is not possible.

#### **From 20 July**

- Outdoor gyms, playgrounds and community centres able to reopen, helping with the provision of summer holiday childcare and play schemes.

#### **From 27 July**

- Close contact services, such as beauty salons, tattoo shops and nail parlours.
- The viewing of occupied homes for rent or sale will restart in the housing market.
- Campsites and other accommodation with shared facilities.
- Cinemas, museums and galleries.
- The requirement to wear a face covering on public transport comes into effect.

#### **From 3 August:**

- The restrictions preventing more than two households or extended households meeting outdoors changed to allow up to 30 people to meet outdoors. Physical distancing must be maintained at all times.

- Pubs, bars, restaurants, cafes will be able to re-open indoors, together with indoor bowling alleys, auction houses and bingo halls.
- Licenced wedding venues will be able to re-open to provide wedding ceremonies. However, indoor receptions will not be able to take place for the time being – they will be considered as part of the changes for August 15.
- The guidance to be updated to relax the position on children under 11 having to maintain a 2m distance from each other or from adults. This reflects the scientific evidence, which shows the risk of transmission is lower among this age group. However, it is very important older children and young adults continue to follow social distancing and the other measures to keep them safe.

#### **From 10 August:**

- Swimming pools, indoor fitness studios, gyms, spas and indoor leisure centres able to re-open.
- Children's indoor play areas able to open.

#### **From 22 August**

- Extended households can expand to include up to four households in an exclusive, extended arrangement.
- Weddings and funerals able to include a meal for up to 30 people, in suitably socially distant settings.

#### **From 28 August**

- Indoor visits to adult and children's care homes resume.

#### **From 29 August**

- Casinos allowed to reopen, provided they follow the guidance available to them.

#### **From 14 September**

- Face coverings mandatory for everyone over 11 in public indoor spaces, such as shops. There will be exemptions for people who cannot wear face coverings for health or medical reasons, similar to those for public transport.
- Only a maximum of six people from the extended household able to meet indoors at any one time. This rule applies in pubs and restaurants as well as in people's homes. Children under 11 will not be counted in the six.

#### **From 7 September**

- Local restrictions imposed on Caerphilly.

### **From 16 September**

- Local restrictions imposed on Rhondda Cynon Taf.

### **From 21 September**

- New measures introduced to prevent a fresh coronavirus crisis
- Hospitality businesses in Wales to close at 10pm

### **From 22 September to 1 October**

- Local restrictions imposed on Blaenau Gwent, Bridgend, Merthyr Tydfil, Newport, Llanelli, Cardiff, Swansea, Vale of Glamorgan, Torfaen, NPT, Wrexham, Flintshire, Denbighshire and Conwy.

### **From 3 October**

- In local restriction areas adults living alone, including single parents, able to form a temporary bubble with another household.

### **From 23 October to 9 November**

- Circuit break / fire break short lockdown introduced.
- Restrictions include people must stay at home, except for very limited purposes, such as for exercise. People must work from home wherever possible; People must not visit other households or meet other people they do not live with either indoors and outdoors;

### **From 9<sup>th</sup> November**

New national rules come into force. Including:

- Maintain two metre social distancing and wear face masks in enclosed public places.
- Work from home whenever possible will remain.
- People should only meet with their 'bubble' in their own home and only two households will be able to form a 'bubble'.
- All premises, such as restaurants, cafes, pubs and gyms, closed during the firebreak, able to reopen. In such settings there will be a limit to groups of up to 4 people (not including any children aged under 11).
- People should avoid non-essential travel as much as possible.

In addition:

- All schools to reopen;
- Churches and places of worship able to resume services;
- Local authority services resume but based on local circumstances;
- Community centres available for small groups to meet safely indoors in the winter months.

## **From 4<sup>th</sup> December**

### **Hospitality**

- Pubs, bars, restaurants and cafes have to close by 6pm and not be allowed to serve alcohol. After 6pm only able to provide takeaway services.
- Indoor entertainment venues, including cinemas, bingo halls, bowling alleys, soft play centres, casinos, skating rinks and amusement arcades, must close.
- Indoor visitor attractions, such as museums, galleries and heritage sites have to close. Outdoor visitor attractions remain open.
- No changes to household bubbles, how many people can meet in public indoor or outdoor places or restrictions on other businesses.

### **Travel**

- Wales' coronavirus regulations amended to prohibit travel to and from tier three areas in England; level three and four areas in Scotland and the whole of Northern Ireland, which is currently in lockdown.
- Guidance strongly advises people in Wales not travel to other parts of the UK with lower levels of coronavirus – tier one and two areas in England or level one and two areas in Scotland – to help control the spread of the virus.

## **From 6pm Christmas Eve midnight December 19 Alert Level 4 introduced**

- People must stay at home, except for very limited purposes.
- People must not visit other households, or meet other people they do not live with
- All non-essential retail, including close contact services and all leisure and fitness centres to close.
- All hospitality premises close.
- Travel limited to essential travel only.

## **Dec 25<sup>th</sup> Christmas bubbles**

- Two households can come together to form a Christmas bubble on Christmas Day only.
- Throughout the alert level four period, a single person household will be able to join with one other household.
- (It had been previously announced that from December 23 to 27 people can travel around the UK and form an exclusive Christmas bubble.)

## **2021**

### **8 Jan – First Minister (FM) confirms Alert Level 4 restrictions to stay in place**

### **29 Jan – FM confirms Alert Level 4 restrictions to stay in place but with two minor amendments -**

- A maximum of two people from different households able to exercise outdoors together, as long as they maintain social distancing. This must involve exercise starting from and finishing from home – driving for exercise to beauty spots should still not take place.
- If a support bubble arrangement has broken down, a new one can be formed as long as there is gap of 10 days before doing so.

### **20 Feb Alert Level 4 to continue. Some minor amendments -**

- From Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> February four people from two different households will be able to meet outdoors for socially distanced local exercise. This doesn't apply to private gardens.
- Sport Wales to make arrangements for more of our talented athletes to resume training and playing.

### **From 27 February – support bubbles for households with children under one**

- Households with one or more children under the age of 1 able to form a support bubble with one other household.
- If you are 16 or 17 years old and live alone, or with others of the same age without any adults, you are able to form a support bubble with one other household.

### **From 1 March – wedding venues**

Venues that are 'approved premises' may open only for the purpose of hosting:

- a wedding or civil partnership ceremony

- an alternative wedding ceremony such as a humanist wedding

#### **From Saturday March 13 – ‘Stay at home’ replaced with ‘stay local’**

- Stay home rule replaced with stay local, meaning people can leave their homes and travel within their local area – usually within five miles.
- No more than four people from two households will be able to meet in their local area outdoors, including in gardens. Children under 11 and carers do not count towards this limit. There must be no indoors mixing and social distancing should be followed.
- Outdoor sports facilities can reopen, including tennis courts, golf courses and bowling greens. A maximum of four people from two households can take part in activities using local sports facilities.
- Indoor care home visits can resume for one designated visitor, with the permission of the care home.

#### **From Monday 15 March – all primary school children return to class:**

- All primary pupils and those in qualifications years return. Schools will have the flexibility to bring in year 10 and 12 pupils, to support them to progress to the next stage of their learning, and more learners will return to colleges. There will also be flexibility for in-school check-ins for all other pupils. All learners will return after the Easter break.
- Hairdressers and barbers can reopen by appointment only to cut hair.

#### **From Monday 22 March – start of non-essential retail reopening**

- The first steps to re-open non-essential retail begins. Restrictions on the sale of non-essential items will be lifted for those shops, which are currently open.
- Garden centres also reopen.

#### **From 27 March – lifting of stay local**

- Self-contained holiday accommodation, including hotels with en-suite facilities and room service, able to reopen to people from the same household or support bubble.
- The stay local rule replaced by an interim all-Wales travel area, which remains in place until April 12, subject to the public health situation. For the next two weeks, only those with a reasonable excuse, such as work, will be able to travel into or out of Wales.
- The current restrictions on international travel for holidays remain in place.

- Six people from two different households, excluding children under 11, able to meet and exercise outdoors and in private gardens
- Organised outdoor activities and sports for children and under 18's can resume.

Limited opening of outdoor areas of some historic places and gardens.

- Libraries and archives able to re-open.

**From Monday 12 April:**

- The full return of children to schools for face-to-face education, all post-16 learners can return to further education and training centres, and university campus' able to open for blended face-to-face/online learning for all students
- All remaining shops will reopen, completing the phased reopening of non-essential retail
- All remaining close contact services will open, including mobile services
- Travel restrictions on travelling into and out of Wales will be lifted. However, restrictions on travel to countries outside the Common Travel Area without a reasonable excuse, remain in place. The Common Travel Area means the United Kingdom, the Channel Islands, the Isle of Man and the Republic of Ireland.
- Wedding 'show-arounds' by appointment are allowed
- Restrictions on political canvassing are removed, subject to canvassers doing so safely

**From Saturday 24 April:**

- The rule of 6 allows for up to six people from six households to meet outdoors, not including children under 11 years of age or carers from those households.

**From Monday 26 April:**

- Outdoor attractions, including outdoor swimming pools, funfairs and theme parks allowed to reopen.
- Outdoor hospitality can also resume, including at cafes, pubs and restaurants.
- Organised outdoor activities for up to 30 people are able to take place and weddings receptions, funerals and wakes can begin again outdoors for up to 30 people.



**From Monday 3 May** - Wales completed the move to Alert Level 3.

- Gyms, fitness facilities, leisure centres, spas and swimming pools can reopen.
- Extended households allows 2 households to come together to form an exclusive bubble who can meet and have contact indoors.

**Relaxations planned for 17 May brought forward to the 3 May, including:**

- Organised children's indoor activities can recommence, such as sporting, cultural and wider recreational groups and clubs. Children's birthday parties, or wider gatherings of families and friends in private homes are still not allowed.
- Organised indoor activities for adults can also recommence for up to 15 people, including, exercise classes and swimming lessons.
- Community centres can reopen.

**Relaxations from 17 May, with move to Alert Level 2 & resumption of some international travel**

- Indoor hospitality can re-open – six people from up to six households (not including children under 11) can book.
- All holiday accommodation can re-open fully.
- Entertainment venues, including cinemas, bingo halls, bowling alleys, indoor-play centres and areas, casinos, amusement arcades, and theatres can re-open. Cinemas, theatres concert halls and sports grounds can sell food and drink as long as it is consumed in a seated area for watching the performance.
- Indoor visitor attractions, including museums and galleries can re-open.
- Up to 30 people can take part in organised indoor activities and up to 50 people in organised outdoor activities. This includes wedding receptions and wakes.
- International travel will resume from Monday 17 May. A traffic light system, aligned with England and Scotland, will be introduced. Countries will be classified as green, amber and red. This means people living in Wales will be able to travel to a small number of foreign destinations without the need to quarantine on their return. Mandatory quarantine for countries not on the green list remains in place.

**From 7 June – phased move to Alert Level 1**

- Up to 30 people can meet outdoors, including in private gardens, outdoor hospitality and public places.
- Larger outdoor organised gatherings and events, such as concerts, football matches and sporting activities, like organised running groups can go ahead for up to 4,000 people standing and 10,000 people seated. All organisers planning

events and activities must undertake a full risk assessment and put in place measures to prevent the spread of coronavirus, including social distancing.

### **From 21 June – pause in full move to Alert Level 1**

Rule changes on hold for 4 weeks as Delta variant spreads, but some technical amendments:

- The number of people who can attend a wedding or civil partnership reception or wake, organised by a business in an indoors regulated premise, such as a hotel, will be determined by the size of the venue and a risk assessment.
- Clarifying small grassroots music and comedy venues will be able to operate on the same basis as hospitality venues, like pubs and cafes.
- Primary school children in the same school contact group or bubble will be able to stay overnight in a residential outdoor education centre.
- Pilot events in theatre, sport and other sectors will also continue throughout June and July.

### **From 17 July, Wales moves fully to Alert Level One, including:**

- Up to six people can meet indoors in private homes and holiday accommodation.
- Organised indoor events can take place for up to 1,000 seated and up to 200 standing.
- Ice rinks can reopen.

Wales takes the first step into Alert Level zero.

Also from 17 July other changes include:

- New rules for children's residential activity centres, so children in groups of up to 30 can visit.
- A specific requirement for employers to provide comprehensive information on the risks and mitigations identified in the Covid risk assessment with their employees.

### **From 7<sup>th</sup> August move to Alert Level 0**

Wales moved to Alert Level zero at 6am on 7 August.

At Alert Level zero:

- There are no legal limits on the number of people who can meet, including in private homes, public places or at events.

- Businesses which were required to be closed are able to re-open. This includes nightclubs.
- Premises which are open to the public and workplaces have more flexibility about which reasonable measures they take to minimise the risk of coronavirus. But these should be tailored to their risk assessment and their specific circumstances.
- Face coverings is not a legal requirement in hospitality settings where food and drink is served, but the Welsh Government continues to encourage their use in settings where this is practical.
- Also on 7 August (from 00.01), adults who are fully vaccinated and children and young people under 18, no longer need to isolate if they are identified as close contacts of someone who has coronavirus.

**However, three important rules remain:**

1. Everyone must continue to isolate for 10 days if they have Covid-19 symptoms or if they have a positive test result.
2. Face coverings continue to be required in most indoor public places in Wales, including on public transport, in shops and in healthcare settings. There will be exemptions for people who cannot wear them, as there are currently.
3. All those responsible for premises open to the public and workplaces must carry out a Covid risk assessment and continue to take reasonable measures to minimise the risk of exposure to coronavirus.

**From 28<sup>th</sup> August 2021**

- No substantive changes in this regulation cycle.
- Some small amendments made to help simplify and clarify existing rules.
- This includes people attending wedding and civil partnership ceremonies no longer being legally required to wear a face covering, in line with the exception already in place for wedding receptions.

**From 11 October – introduction of Covid passes for some venues**

From 07.00 on the 11 October, the existing NHS Covid Pass will become compulsory for everyone attending:

- Nightclubs and similar venues;
- Indoor non-seated events for more than 500 people. This includes conventions and concerts;
- Outdoor non-seated events for more than 4,000 people;

- And any setting or event for more than 10,000 people, such as a rugby or football match.

(To note that the limits are applicable on the number of people attending rather than the capacity of a building or stadium)

### **From 29 Oct – Strengthened measures to reduce high coronavirus cases in Wales**

Wales will remain at Alert Level zero but some extra measures will be taken to protect people's health.

- The guidance around self-isolation changes. Adults who are fully vaccinated and children and young people aged five to 17 are asked to self-isolate until they have received a negative PCR test if someone in their household has symptoms or tests positive for Covid-19.
- People who are not vaccinated still have to self-isolate for 10 days following contact with someone who has tested positive, including close contacts outside of their household.
- Head teachers are given extra support to quickly put measures in place in their schools if case rates are high locally.
- Staff and secondary school students encouraged to take twice-weekly lateral flow tests to help keep coronavirus out of schools.
- And, while coronavirus cases remain very high, the Welsh Government intends to extend the use of Covid Pass to theatres, cinemas and concert halls from 15 November. These are settings where large numbers of people gather indoors, close to each other, for long periods at a time.

### **From 15 November 2021 – extension of use of NHS Covid pass**

- NHS COVID Passes needed in cinemas, theatres and concert halls.

### **From 10 Dec – flow before you go, but Wales stays at Alert Level 0.**

Wales will remain at Alert Level zero after the latest review of the Covid regulations. However, with the spread of the Omicron variant, the Welsh Government is strongly advising:

- People flow before they go. This means taking a lateral flow test before going out – whether that's to a Christmas party; Christmas shopping; visiting friends or family; going to any crowded or busy place or before travelling.
- If the test is positive, don't go out. Arrange for a PCR test and self-isolate.

- People to wear face coverings in pubs and restaurants, when they aren't eating or drinking. Everyone must wear face coverings in most other indoor public places, in accordance with the law, including in cinemas and theatres.

WG also making three changes to the regulations to:

- Clarify that people face coverings must be worn in theatres, cinemas or concert halls (except when eating or drinking or when at in-house cafes or bars)
- Require face coverings to be worn during a professional driving lesson or practical test;
- Remove proof of natural immunity from the domestic version of the Covid Pass.
- The changes on face coverings come into force on Saturday 11 December and their purpose is to remove any ambiguity from the regulations.

### **From 16 Dec - new advice to keep Wales safe this Christmas**

- The Welsh Government issues strong guidance to support people across Wales through the Christmas period.
- FM asked people to have a smaller Christmas and avoid meeting "wider circles of friends" - however, this is only guidance, not law.
- WG introduce new restrictions, including for businesses and services, from 27 December. This will include a 2m rule on social distancing in offices and putting extra measures in place to protect customers and staff, such as one-way systems and physical barriers.
- Nightclubs also close.

### **From 20 Dec – Sporting events to be played behind closed doors as Omicron cases rise (this decision superseded by the below)**

- Sporting events to be played behind closed doors from Boxing Day in Wales to help control the spread of the new Omicron variant.
- WG announced the new measures for indoor and outdoor sporting events as the latest figures showed a further steep rise in the number of confirmed cases of the fast-moving variant.

### **From 6am Boxing Day 26 Dec 2021 a revised version of Alert Level 2 comes into force.**

The measures mean:

- A general requirement of 2m social distancing in all premises open to the public and workplaces, where reasonable.

- The rule of 6 will apply to gatherings in regulated premises, such as hospitality, cinemas and theatres.
- All licensed premises need to take additional measures to protect customers and staff, including table service and collecting contact details.
- Face coverings will be required in hospitality settings at all times apart from when seated.
- Large events not be allowed indoors or outdoors. The maximum number of people who can gather at an indoor event will be 30 and 50 outdoors.
- There will be an exception for team sports, up to 50 spectators will be able to gather, in addition to those taking part. There is also an exception for events involving children.
- Last week new measures were announced for workplaces and retail – these came into force on Boxing Day. Nightclubs will also close on Boxing Day.
- WG announced they will not be making new rules about mixing in people's private homes, including gardens, in holiday accommodation or meeting outdoors. Instead guidance will be issued to help people stay safe.

To help you stay safe in your own home, WG strongly advised everyone follows these 5 measures:

- Limit the number of people visiting your home.
- If people are visiting, make sure they take a lateral flow test in the morning before the visit.
- Meeting outdoors is better than indoors. If you're meeting indoors make sure it's well ventilated.
- Space out any visits.
- And don't forget about social distancing and washing your hands.

There is a separate offence for large gatherings – more than 30 people indoors or 50 people outdoors – in private homes and gardens.

## **2022**

**From 15 January 2022 changes to outdoor activities and announcing exit plan to return Wales back to Alert Level 0**

**From 15 Jan, the number of people who can be present at outdoor events will rise from 50 to 500.**

From Friday 21 January, Wales moves to Alert Level zero for all outdoor activities. This means there are no limits on the number of people who can take part in outdoor activities.

- Crowds able to return to outdoor sporting events.
- Outdoor hospitality able to operate without additional reasonable measures.
- The Covid Pass will be required for entry to larger outdoor events.

If the downward trend continues, from Friday 28 January, Wales would move to Alert Level zero for all indoor activities.

- Nightclubs able to re-open.
- Working from home would remain important but it's no longer a legal requirement.
- Businesses, employers and other organisations must undertake a specific coronavirus risk assessment and take reasonable measures to minimise the spread of coronavirus.
- The Covid Pass will be required to enter larger indoor events, nightclubs, cinemas, theatres and concert halls.
- The rule of 6, table service and 2m physical distancing no longer required in hospitality.
- The self-isolation rules for all those who test positive for Covid and the face-covering rules for most public indoor places remains in force after 28 January.

## **25 January – International Travel**

Via a written statement issued on 25 January, WG confirmed it saw a greater opportunity for individuals to return to making decisions based on their own circumstances. On that basis, and because of the vaccination success, the advice that people can only travel overseas if their journey is essential ceases.

In addition, it noted that from 4am on Friday 11 February (see below), the rules for travellers arriving in the UK are being relaxed. Fully vaccinated arriving travellers are not required to take a test on or before day two, and unvaccinated arriving travellers are not required to take a day eight test or self-isolate for 10 days following arrival.

These changes are made given the significant practical difficulties associated with diverging from the arrangements announced (24 Jan) by the UK Government for England, as a significant number of Welsh travellers use English airports and ports.

## **28 January – Wales completes move to Alert Level 0**

On Friday 28 January, the First Minister announced that Wales had completed the move to Alert Level 0.

This means:

- Nightclubs can re-open.
- The general requirement of 2m social distancing in all premises open to the public and workplaces removed.
- The rule of six no longer applies to gatherings in regulated premises, such as hospitality, cinemas and theatres.
- Licensed premises no longer need to only provide table service or collect contact details.
- The Covid Pass will continue to be required to enter larger indoor events, nightclubs, cinemas, theatres and concert halls.
- Working from home remains important but is no longer a legal requirement.
- Businesses, employers and other organisations must continue to undertake a specific coronavirus risk assessment and take reasonable measures to minimise the spread of coronavirus, which may include 2m social distancing or controlled entry.
- Face-covering rules, which apply on public transport and in most public indoor places remains in force after 28 January, with the exception of hospitality settings such as restaurants, pubs, cafes and nightclubs.
- Everyone must also continue to self-isolate if they test positive for coronavirus but the Welsh Government has reduced the self-isolation period from 7 to 5 full days. People should take 2 negative lateral flow tests 24 hours apart on days 5 and 6. The self-isolation support scheme payment will return to the original rate of £500 for all those who are eligible.

## **11 February – Coronavirus protections relaxed as cases fall**

Further changes confirmed on 11 Feb, following the first three-week review of Wales' Alert Level zero measures, and due to levels of infection falling.

- From Friday 18 February, the domestic Covid Pass no longer required for entry into indoor or outdoor events and venues, including nightclubs, cinemas, theatres and concert halls. But events and venues can continue to use it if they choose to.
- The international Covid Pass will continue to be integral to arrangements for safer international travel. Travellers will need to check the relevant countries' rules for entry, including any different requirements for children.
- From Monday 28 February, the requirement to wear face coverings is removed from most indoor public places, apart from in retail, public transport and health and care settings.



- If the public health conditions continue to improve, the legal requirement to wear face coverings in all remaining settings could be lifted by the end of March.
- Schools return to using their local decision framework from 28 February and from 11 February the guidance will be updated to make it clear adults can remove their face coverings when they are interacting with babies and small children at baby and toddler groups.
- Requirement to self-isolate if testing positive for Covid remains.
- Welsh Government also announced intention to publish a plan setting out how Wales will move beyond Alert Level zero and the emergency footing on which we have been operating for nearly two years.

## **11 February – changes to International Travel to the UK**

### **From 4 a.m. on 11 Feb:**

- Fully vaccinated passengers (who have had their full primary courses) no longer need a pre-departure test two days before travelling to the UK. The only requirement will be for them to complete a Passenger Locator Form.
- Unvaccinated travellers or ineligible travellers to complete a Passenger Location Form, a pre-departure test within two days of their scheduled departure, and a PCR arrival test taken on or before day two.
- All under-18s, regardless of their vaccination status, can now enter the UK without a pre-departure test.

## **18 February – legal requirement to show Covid Pass in certain venues and events in Wales lifted**

Domestic Covid Pass no longer required for entry into indoor or outdoor events and venues, including nightclubs, cinemas, theatres and concert halls. But events and venues will be able to continue to use it if they choose to.

The international Covid Pass will continue to be integral to arrangements for safer international travel. Travellers will need to check the relevant countries' rules for entry, including any different requirements for children.

## **28 February – Face Coverings**

People are no longer legally required to wear face coverings in a range of indoor places, including cinemas, theatres, community centres, museums and gyms.

Face coverings continue to be a legal requirement for adults and children aged 11 and over, unless exempt, in all retail settings, on public transport and in health and care settings.

Official guidance also continues to highlight the importance of face coverings as one means of helping keep people safe.

Face coverings no longer be routinely required in classrooms but they should continue to be worn in communal areas in secondary schools.

#### **4 March – No changes to remaining restrictions under Alert Level Zero**

Following the 3-weekly review on 3 March, the following legal restrictions remain:

- face coverings legally required only in retail, public transport and health and care settings
- you must continue to self-isolate if you have symptoms or a positive test
- workplaces and premises open to the public must continue to do coronavirus risk assessments

If the current public health situation remains stable, all remaining restrictions to be removed on 28 March. Law becomes guidance.

*Covid Transition Plan: Together for a safer future: Wales' long-term COVID-19 transition from pandemic to endemic* launched on 4 March. It is a long-term plan marking the start of Wales' transition beyond the emergency response to the pandemic which has been in place for two years.

*Together for a Safer Future* sets out how Wales will live with coronavirus, just as we live with many other infectious diseases, and what that will mean for the many public health services and protections Wales has put in place, including vaccine and testing services.

*Source – Environmental Health Wales, All Wales Health & Safety Expert Panel*