

Coronavirus (COVID-19): Meeting with others safely (social distancing)

Published 9 September 2020 (Aka the rule of Six)

There is no doubt we are now in a second wave situation. The government needed to introduce these are the new rules which apply from today. They are the law.

This is guidance that applies to England only. If you live in an area where local restrictions are in place you should also consult the local restrictions guidance, for information about what you can and can't do to manage the outbreak. It is critical that everybody observes the following key behaviours:

- **HANDS** - Wash your hands regularly and for 20 seconds.
- **FACE** - Wear a face covering in indoor settings where social distancing may be difficult, and where you will come into contact with people you do not normally meet.
- **SPACE** - Stay 2 metres apart from people you do not live with where possible, or 1 metre with extra precautions in place (such as wearing face coverings or increasing ventilation indoors).

1) Distancing

- To reduce the risk of catching or spreading coronavirus, try to keep at least 2 metres away from people you do not live with. Social distancing is essential to stop the spread of the virus, as it is more likely to spread when people are close together. An infected person can pass on the virus even if they do not have any symptoms, through talking, breathing, coughing or sneezing.
- When with people you do not live with, you should also avoid: physical contact; being close and face-to-face; and shouting or singing close to them. You should also avoid crowded areas with lots of people; and touching things that other people have touched.
- Where you cannot stay 2 metres apart you should stay more than 1 metre apart, as well as taking extra steps to stay safe. For example:
- wear a face covering: on public transport and in many indoor spaces, you must wear a face covering by law, unless you are exempt
- move outdoors, where it is safer and there is more space
- if indoors, make sure rooms are well ventilated by keeping windows and doors open
- You do not need to socially distance from anyone in your household, meaning the people you live with.
- You also do not need to socially distance from someone you're in an established relationship with, or anyone in your legally-permitted support bubble you are in one.
- It may not always be possible or practicable to maintain social distancing when providing care to a young child, or person with a disability or health condition.

- You should still limit close contact as much as possible when providing these types of care, and take other precautions such as washing hands and opening windows for ventilation.

2) Seeing friends and family

When seeing friends and family you do not live with you should follow social distancing rules limit how many different people you see socially over a short period of time meet people outdoors where practical: meeting people outdoors is safer than meeting people indoors because fresh air provides better ventilation.

Limits on the number of people you can see socially are changing.

- From Monday 14 September, when meeting friends and family you do not live with you must not meet in a group of more than 6, indoors or outdoors.
- From 14 September - when the new rules apply - it will be against the law to meet people you do not live with in a group larger than 6 (unless you are meeting as a household or support bubble)
- The police will have the powers to enforce these legal limits, including to issue fines (fixed penalty notice) of £100, doubling for further breaches up to a maximum of £3,200.

There will be exceptions where groups can be larger than 6 people, including:

- where everyone lives together or is in the same support bubble, or to continue existing arrangements where children do not live in the same household as both their parents
- for work, and voluntary or charitable services
- for education, training, registered childcare, or providers offering before or after-school clubs children
- fulfilling legal obligations such as attending court or jury service
- providing emergency assistance, or providing support to a vulnerable person
- for you or someone else to avoid illness, injury or harm
- participate in children's playgroups
- wedding and civil partnership ceremonies and receptions, or for other religious life-cycle ceremonies - where up to 30 people will be able to attend
- funerals - where up to 30 people will be able to attend
- organised indoor and outdoor sports, physical activity and exercise classes (see the list of recreational team sports, sportexercise allowed under theand leisure centre guidance
- youth groups or activities

- elite sporting competition or training
- protests and political activities organised in compliance with COVID-19 secure guidance and subject to strict risk assessments

3. In other venues and activities

Venues following COVID-19 secure guidelines will be able to continue to host more people in total - such as religious services in places of worship - but no one should visit in a group of greater than 6.

When you visit one of these places, such as a pub, shop, leisure venue, restaurant or place of worship you should:

- follow the limits on the number of other people you should meet with as a group - no more than six people unless you all live together (or are in the same support bubble)
- avoid social interaction with anyone outside the group you are with, even if you see other people you know
- provide your contact details to the organiser so that you can be contacted if needed by the Test and Trace programme

What are the latest changes in England?

- Boris Johnson said the new measures would probably stay in place for the next six months.
- Pubs, bars and restaurants to close at 22:00 BST
- They will also be restricted to table service only
- People should work from home wherever possible
- Face masks compulsory for bar staff and non-seated customers, shop workers and waiters
- Limit on guests at weddings reduced from 30 to 15
- Plans to allow fans to return to sporting events paused
- "Rule of six" now applies to indoor team sports
- Fines for not wearing masks or following rules increased to £200 for first offence

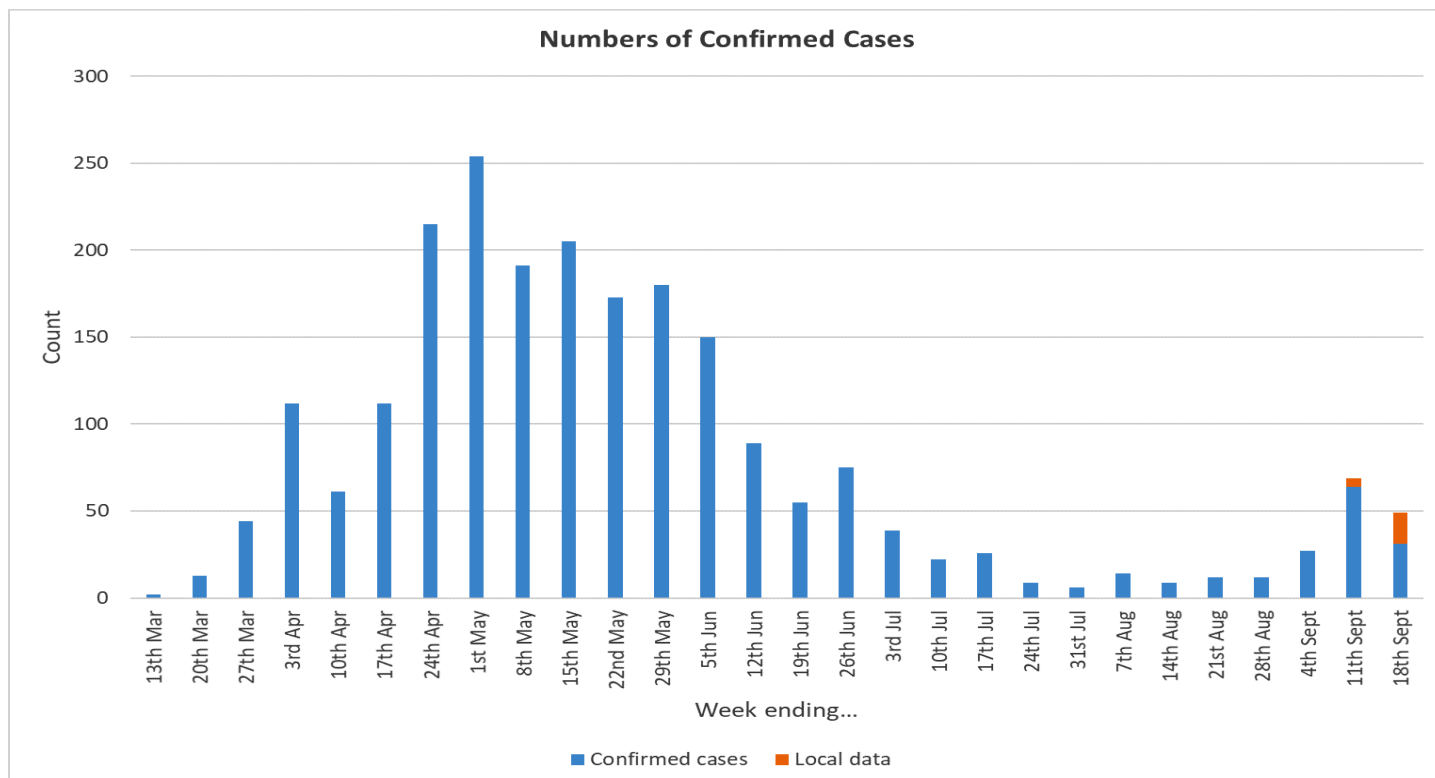
Please remember that there are people about who are symptomless carriers who can infect others.

So the safest assumption is to assume that everyone is a potential risk.

Remember HANDS FACE SPACE

Pathways Stop Press 19th September 2020

Doncaster Case Count from DMBC website

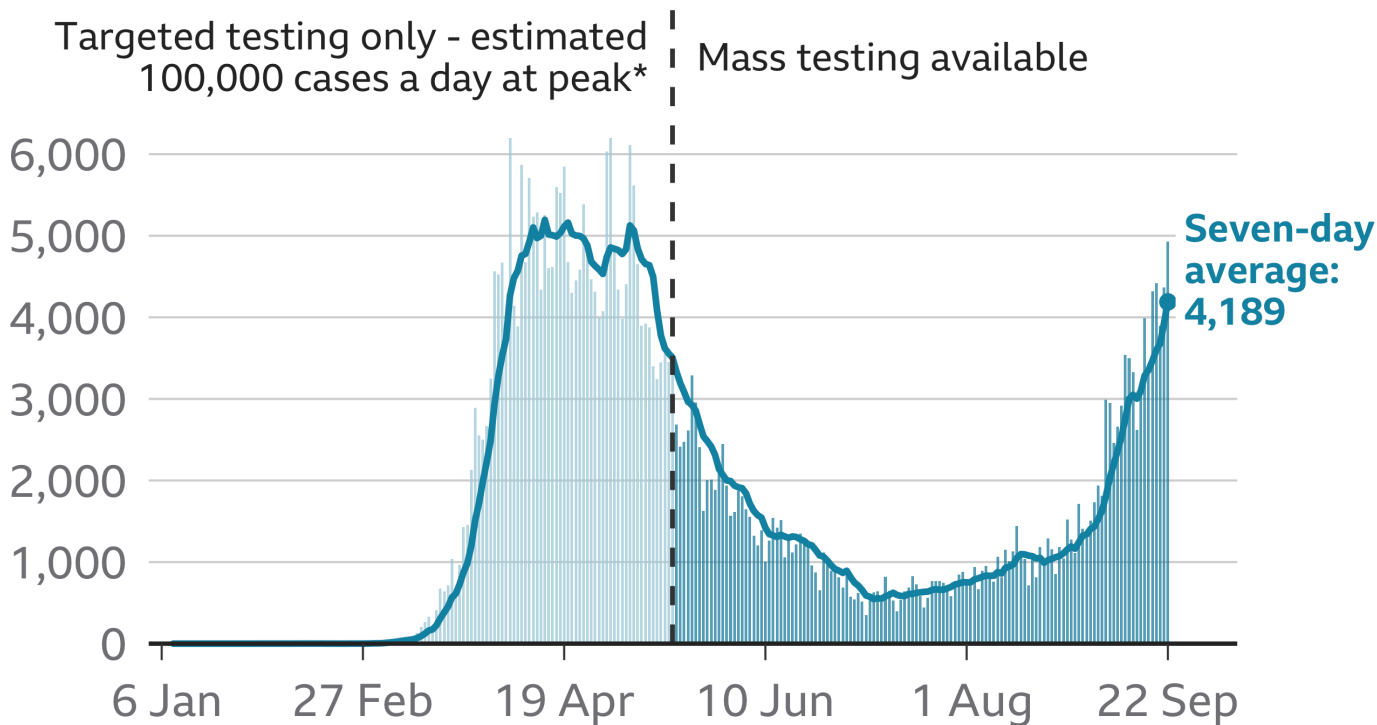


Weekly Cases / Community infections

- The first laboratory confirmed cases of COVID 19 in Doncaster were on the 10th March 2020. The graph above shows the weekly totals of confirmed COVID 19 cases among Doncaster residents.
- The numbers of confirmed cases fell from the end of May until the end of August. There were small fluctuations in late July and August, mostly due to isolated community cases and cases in Care homes, where management plans were put in place.
- In the last 2 weeks update we have adjusted the numbers of confirmed cases to reflect newly available locally information which has not made it into official figures yet. These locally derived figures are the orange bars in the chart above.
- In the week ending the 11th September local analysis has found an additional 5 cases over and above the 64 reported nationally. The total confirmed cases for the week ending the 18th September is 49. This is likely to increase as additional data become available next week.
- Regardless of the specific published numbers, it is very clear that there has been a growth in Doncaster's numbers. This is due to an increase in the number of infections and also an increase in testing and a lag in the test results coming in.
- This is in line with national and regional trends, albeit Doncaster's numbers are still comparatively low compared to the rest of South Yorkshire and the England average.
- The local growth in cases is concerning but should also be seen in context of the peaks that we have previously had. Public Health advice should continue to be followed.

National Situation

Daily confirmed cases rising sharply again



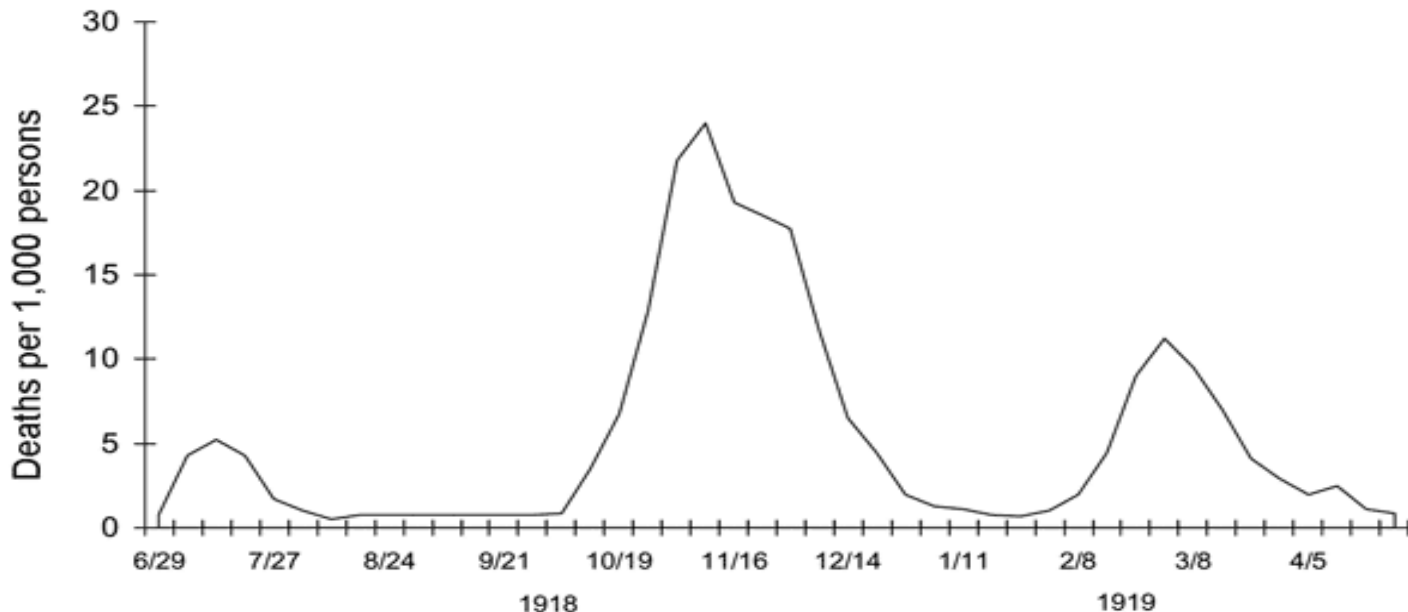
*estimate by London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine for March peak

Source: Gov.uk dashboard, LSTHM, updated to 22 Sep 09:00 BST



We are now into a second wave. I have included below the Spanish flu outbreak for 1918-19. If you look at the graph there is a little hump for the summer and that a bigger peak for the winter.

There is no doubt that we are heading for another peak.

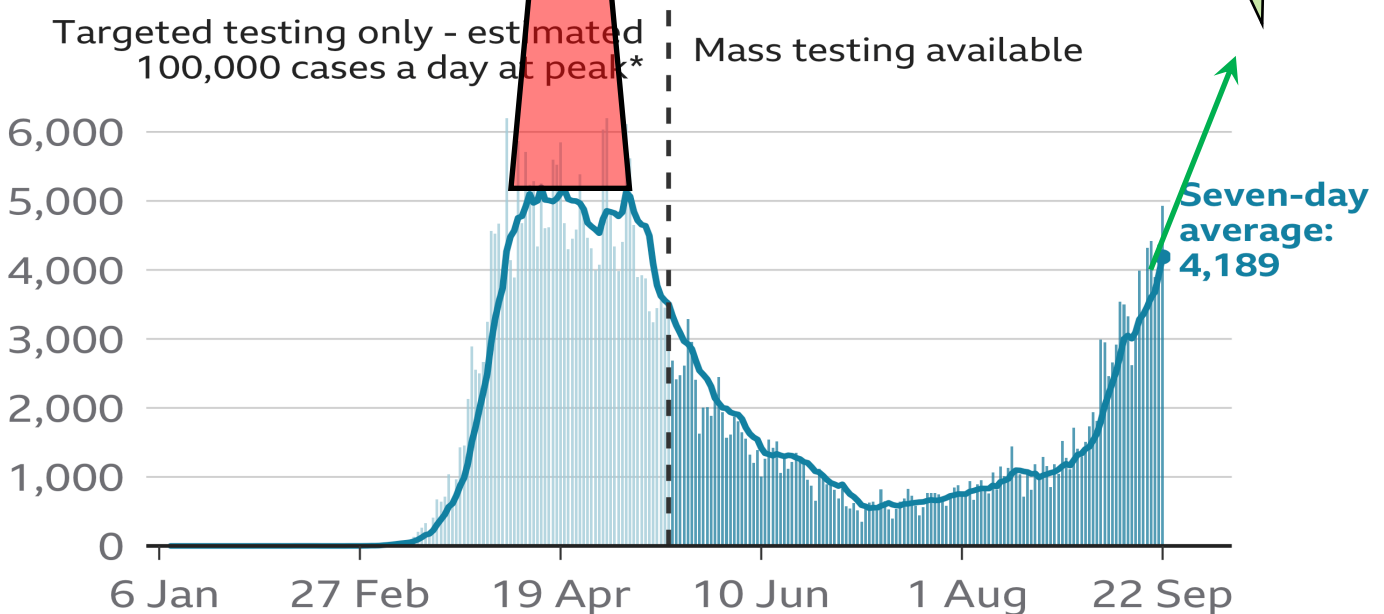


What will happen next ?

Because the testing was limited, we have a flat peak. If testing had been available the peak would have been something like the red triangle. Later analysis suggests that the actual figure count could have been 4-5 times higher

The question for everyone is how far will it go. Current opinion is that it will go far higher, Currently the government is considering what additional measures are needed

Daily confirmed cases rising sharply again



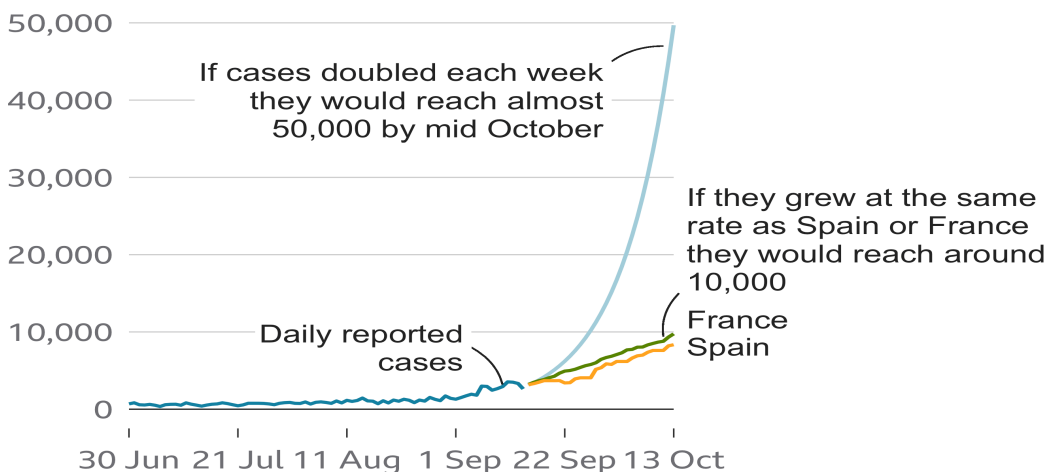
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Source: Gov.uk dashboard, LSTHM, updated to 22 Sep 09:00 BST



How fast could coronavirus cases grow?

Projection based on different scenarios



Source: Prime Minister's Office, ECDC

