

## Covid -19 Oasis update August 2020

### Staying alert when meeting people, you do not live with

In order to keep you and your family and friends safe, it remains very important that you [stay alert](#) when meeting family and friends.

You should:

- only socialise indoors with members of up to 2 households – this includes when dining out or going to the pub
- socialise outdoors in a group of up to 6 people from different households or up to 2 households (anyone in your support bubble counts as one household)
- not hold or attend celebrations (such as parties) where it is difficult to maintain social distancing and avoid close social interaction – even if they are organised by businesses and venues that are taking steps to follow COVID-19 secure guidelines
- not stay overnight away from your home with members of more than 2 households (including your support bubble)
- limit social interaction with anyone outside the group you are attending a place with, even if you see other people you know, for example, in a restaurant, community centre or place of worship
- try to limit the number of people you see, especially over short periods of time, to keep you and them safe, and save lives. The more people with whom you interact, the more chances we give the virus to spread

You can also minimise the risk of spreading infection by following some key principles. You should:

- continue to follow strict social distancing guidelines when you are with anyone not in your household or your support bubble
- take hygiene precautions by washing your hands as soon as you are home for at least 20 seconds, use hand sanitiser when you are out, use a tissue when sneezing and dispose of it safely, and cough into the crook of your elbow
- form a support bubble with one other household, and if you or they are in a single adult household. You should not change or add to your support bubble once formed
- access private gardens externally wherever possible – if you need to go through someone else's home to do so, avoid touching surfaces and loitering
- avoid using toilets in other people's home (outside of your support bubble) wherever possible and wipe down surfaces as frequently as possible
- using disinfectant, wipe down any surfaces or door handles people from outside of your household or support bubble come into contact with if walking through your home
- avoid sharing plates and utensils with people outside of your household or your support bubble
- avoid using paddling pools or other garden equipment with people outside of your household or bubble

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### **Where to meet indoors**

Members of 2 different households can meet in any indoor space, including a private home (anyone in your support bubble counts as one household). Anyone in your support bubble counts as one household.

You should, wherever possible, socially distance from people you do not live with or who are not in your support bubble and take particular care to maintain excellent hygiene – washing hands and surfaces – when using shared facilities like bathrooms.

### **Where to meet outdoors**

You can meet people in both public and private outdoor spaces, such as gardens, yards or roof terraces – but you should maintain social distancing at all times with people who are not in your household or support bubble. Garages, sheds or cabins are all indoor areas where the risk of transmission is as high as if you were in a small room in a house.

If you do need to use the toilet in someone's home or are passing through to access someone's garden, try to avoid touching surfaces and if you use the toilet wash your hands thoroughly, wipe down surfaces, use separate towels or paper towels and wash or dispose of them safely after use.

### **Going to a pub or restaurant with members of another household**

When eating or drinking out with people you do not live with, you should only meet one other household if you are seated indoors.

If you are eating or drinking outdoors, you can do so with one other household or in a group of up to 6 people from different households. You should take care to limit your interactions with anyone outside the group you visit these places with.

In all cases, people from different households (unless in support bubbles) should ensure they socially distance as much as possible. Premises should also take reasonable steps to help you do so in line with COVID-19 secure principles.

### **Sharing food and drink**

You should try, wherever possible, not to pass each other food or drink unless you live together or are in a support bubble together. You should ensure that plates or utensils are thoroughly cleaned before use. Wash your hands frequently and thoroughly for at least 20 seconds and use disposable towels if possible.

Clearly, Oasis cannot meet whilst these restrictions remain in place. This is disappointing for us all. However, I am trying to think positively about how we might be able to meet at the earliest possible opportunity whilst ensuring everybody's safety. The food and drink problem could be solved by each person or social bubble bringing their own picnic in a bag. Hand sanitizer and wipes can be provided and used frequently. Door handles, surfaces and toilets wiped frequently. Social distancing would need to be maintained with definitely no hugging or kissing! It would be nice to think we could meet before Christmas but don't hold your breath. In fact, do hold your breath, then you're less likely to spread the virus!

**Serena**