

## ACRE Guidance (Action with Rural Communities in England), published 1st March

### Step One: 8<sup>th</sup> March & 29<sup>th</sup> March

#### From 8 March

All schools will open, so schools can use village halls.

Up to 30 can attend funerals, up to 6 wakes and weddings (no longer limited to exceptional circumstances).

#### From 29 March

- Outdoor gatherings of either six people or two households will be allowed – the “rule of six”.
- Outdoor sports facilities such as tennis, bowls or basketball courts can reopen.
- Outdoors, organised adult and children’s sport, e.g., grassroots football, can return.
- Outdoors, organised activities for children can take place e.g., cubs, brownies etc.
- Outdoors, parent and child groups can meet with up to 15 attending, plus under fives.
- Out of school children’s settings will be able to accept all children.

### Step Two: 12<sup>th</sup> April

Only the activities shown here are permitted. Other activities e.g., art classes, clubs, WIs, craft groups, Parish Council meetings will not yet be permitted.

- Indoor gyms can re-open, but **not** exercise classes.
- Funerals can take place with up to 30 people; wakes and weddings will be allowed up to 15 guests. (Restaurants and hotels will not yet be open).
- All indoor children’s activities can open, including dance classes, musical activities, cubs, scouts, brownies.
- Parent and child groups can open indoors, e.g., parent and toddlers, with up to 15 attending plus under-fives.

The social contact rules will continue to apply in all settings - meaning social distancing must be maintained, no indoor mixing allowed between different households.

Government guidance issued on 25<sup>th</sup> February on re-opening businesses and venues in England [here](#) says: “indoor events that bring people together - even if they do not mix with other households - must not run until Step 3. This is only permitted if there is an explicit exemption – this includes support groups, supervised activities for children,

parent-and-child groups (up to 15 people, not counting those aged under five), communal worship, or a wedding, reception or commemorative event like a wake.”

### **Step Three: 17<sup>th</sup> May**

- Controlled indoor events can take place with up to 50% capacity.
- Hospitality settings will be able to open in accordance with the “rule of 6”, so community cafes, coffee mornings and social clubs can take place.
- Film shows, plays, concerts and sports matches can take place, subject to social distancing.
- Indoor sports activities, including exercise classes, table tennis, badminton can take place.
- Up to 30 people will be able to attend weddings, receptions, funerals, and wakes.
- Christenings and bar mitzvahs will be allowed.

The “rule of 6” will apply to indoor events. Guidance on social contact between friends and family will be reviewed. While so-called “vaccine passports” are under consideration for allowing certain indoor venues to re-open safely at this step that would hopefully be confined to larger venues, not village and community halls.

### **Step Four: 21<sup>st</sup> June**

- All legal limits on social contact are removed. Outdoor events with more than 30 people can take place.
- Dancing is permitted.
- Restrictions on numbers at weddings and funerals are abolished.