



**Northern Ireland
Executive**

www.northernireland.gov.uk

Current COVID-19 regulations and guidance: what they mean for indoor visitor attractions

New relaxations on social distancing came into effect on 30 September. While these changes removed the requirement for social distancing in indoor visitor attractions, the Executive reminds sectors of the regulations remaining in law and recommending additional mitigations that should be put in place to limit the risk of transmission.

Your responsibility

It is your responsibility as an employer, business owner or manager of a premise to ensure that you are complying with the current regulations and guidance in place.

The current regulations are available on the Department of Health website at <https://www.health-ni.gov.uk/publications/health-protection-coronavirus-restrictions-regulations-northern-ireland-2021>

Keep in mind that some of the restrictions are in law through regulation, while others are guidance. These remain in place to help stop the spread of COVID-19 and we ask that you continue to protect your customers and your employees by following public health advice.

If you fail to comply with the regulations without reasonable excuse, you are committing an offence. For some offences you may be given a [fixed penalty](#) or a fine on summary prosecution.

Current requirements in COVID-19 regulations

Indoor visitor attractions must:

- Require wearing of face coverings;
- Record visitor and attendee information; and
- Perform a risk assessment and produce it if requested

Venues are required to collect customer details to help with the Test, Trace, Protect contact tracing programme. Customer details will include the:

- name and telephone number of each visitor over the age of 16; and

This page is an overview of what you can and cannot do. It is not a definitive statement of the law and should not be relied upon as such.

- date and time of their visit

Recommended mitigations

Indoor attractions and venues must take reasonable measures to help to reduce the spread of COVID-19, this includes:

- hand sanitiser stations
- use of protective screens
- good ventilation
- use of one way systems (if possible)
- minimising close face to face contact
- regular cleaning especially for high contact areas like card machines

Current regulations do not require social distancing in indoor visitor attractions or outdoor venues. However, social distancing remains strongly advised where possible, and should be considered alongside other risk mitigations to limit the risk of transmission.

Areas of indoor visitor attractions which sell or provide food or drink come under the hospitality regulations. In these areas social distancing of 1m continues to be a legal requirement.

Risk mitigations should be detailed in your risk assessments.

Useful links

- HSE NI guidance on Ventilation and COVID-19
<https://www.hseni.gov.uk/articles/ventilation-and-covid-19>
- Ventilation in the workplace
<https://www.nibusinessinfo.co.uk/content/coronavirus-ventilation-workplace>
- Workforce testing for COVID-19
<https://www.nibusinessinfo.co.uk/content/coronavirus-workplace-covid-19-testing>
- COVID-19 Compliance and Penalties
<https://www.nidirect.gov.uk/articles/coronavirus-covid-19-regulations-compliance-and-penalties>