England is less than a week away from [easing its next set of restrictions](https://inews.co.uk/news/politics/roadmap-lockdown-dates-stages-explained-boris-johnson-announcement-when-covid-rules-end-882813), which will allow people to socialise outdoors in groups again.

The [Rule of Six](https://inews.co.uk/news/rule-of-six-what-new-rules-meeting-people-outside-lockdown-roadmap-covid-restrictions-explained-882117) is set to return in public outdoor spaces and private gardens on 29 March.

Groups of larger than six from a maximum of two households will also be allowed to meet.

Outdoor sport and leisure facilities, such as [golf courses](https://inews.co.uk/sport/golf/golf-courses-reopen-when-opening-return-covid-lockdown-announcement-856804) and tennis courts, will be allowed to reopen, and organised outdoor sport can resume for children and adults.

Outdoor parent and child groups will be allowed, with up to 15 parents.

This will complete the [first step of the roadmap](https://inews.co.uk/news/politics/roadmap-lockdown-dates-stages-explained-boris-johnson-announcement-when-covid-rules-end-882813), with step two due to start on 12 April.

Before each new stage, the Government will review data assessing the [impact of the previous step against four tests](https://inews.co.uk/news/uk/lockdown-easing-roadmap-covid-restrictions-explained-tests-conditions-plan-882061).

**These tests are:**

1. The vaccine deployment programme continues successfully
2. Evidence shows vaccines are sufficiently effective in reducing hospitalisations and deaths in those vaccinated
3. Infection rates do not risk a surge in hospitalisations which would put unsustainable pressure on the NHS
4. Government assessment of the risks is not fundamentally changed by new variants of concern

Step-by-step lockdown roadmap

**Step 1**

* **From 29 March:**Return of the “Rule of Six”: Groups of larger than six from a maximum of two households will also be allowed to meet. Outdoor sport and leisure facilities, such as golf courses and tennis courts, will be allowed to reopen, and organised outdoor sport can resume for children and adults

**Step 2** – **From 12 April**

* All non-essential retail can reopen
* Pubs, restaurants and cafes can reopen, with outdoor seating only
* Gyms and other indoor leisure can reopen (limited to household groups)
* Hairdressers and other personal care businesses can open again
* Domestic holidays can resume (limited to household groups)
* Outdoor attractions like zoos and theme parks can reopen
* Weddings and wakes can have up to 15 people
* Libraries and community centres can reopen
* All children’s activities can resume, including indoor parent and children groups with up to 15 parents
* Tests will be conducted for larger events

**Step 3** – **From 17 May**

* Rules of Six will come into effect indoors (subject to review)
* Indoor seating can resume in pubs and restaurants
* Indoor entertainment venues like cinemas and theatres can reopen
* Domestic overnight stays can resume
* Organised indoor adult sport can start again
* Weddings and other “significant life events” can include up to 30 people
* Remaining outdoor entertainment, such as performances, can resume
* Remaining accommodation can reopen

**Step 4** – **From 21 June**

* Larger events can resume
* Night clubs can reopen
* No legal limits on social contact