



### Omicron variant: changes to restrictions

New measures have been put in place as a precaution because cases of a variant of concern have been found in the UK. There are changes to the rules in England on self-isolation, testing after international travel, and face coverings, which apply from 4am on Tuesday 30 November.

**Customers and staff are legally required to wear face coverings indoors in shops and on public transport services.**

This includes:

- shops and close contact services (such as hairdressers and beauty therapists), including those within another type of business or facility
- shops and communal areas in shopping centres
- public transport services (such as buses, trains and trams) and transport services open to the public (such as indoor areas of private hire coaches, open-top bus tours and leisure boats)
- transport hubs (such as airports; maritime ports; rail, bus and coach stations), including any businesses located within a transport hub (except hospitality venues like cafes and bars)

This guidance will be updated shortly to include more information on these changes

**Please wash your PPE as often as possible**



## Where are the Omicron cases in UK?

Here's a breakdown of the locations of all the announced Omicron cases in England, by local authority:

Barnet 2 (new), Brentwood 1, Camden 2 (1 new), Haringey 1 (new), Liverpool 1 (new), North Norfolk 1 (new), Nottingham 1, Sutton 1 (new), Wandsworth 1 and Westminster 2 (1 new).

Of the nine cases in Scotland, five are in Lanarkshire and four are in Greater Glasgow and Clyde.

Boris Johnson news conference on the expansion of the UK's booster jabs programme and the Omicron variant of COVID-19.

## These are the main takeaways:

- The target is to offer all over-18s a booster jab by the end of January
- 150 more community pharmacy sites and hospital hubs will be deployed to ramp up the booster programme
- The PM said people shouldn't be cancelling Christmas parties - after a health chief said people should be minimising unnecessary social contact
- Schools should not be cancelling nativity plays either, the PM said
- Health Secretary Sajid Javid said there is "a lot" we don't know about the Omicron variant, but scientists are working "night and day" find out more about it
- There is "likely" to already be community transmission of the variant in the UK
- The NHS is looking at reducing the 15-minute wait after jabs in order to inoculate more people in a short period of time
- The health service is confident it has the supplies necessary to administer millions more booster jabs
- Another lockdown is "extremely unlikely", the PM said, but he stressed that "we keep everything under constant review".

<https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

<https://fortel.co.uk/covid-19>

<https://www.mind.org.uk/>

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