

PEP Insights Research Covid-19 UK timeline (March 2020 - April 2021)

This timeline captures a flavour of the UK government's key announcements relating to restrictions brought about by the Coronavirus pandemic, with specific references to lockdown restrictions, HE and school closures, and vaccine development and roll out, alongside dates relating to the PEP Insights Research design and data gathering. Whilst the list is not comprehensive, it provides useful context for the research.

	Covid-19 and lockdown	Education	PEP Insights Research
March 2020	 3rd: Coronavirus Action Plan launched - contain, delay, research, mitigate. Reminded people 'wash your hands with soap and hot water for the length of time it takes to sing Happy Birthday twice.' 16th: Prime Minster Statement on Coronavirus: Stop non-essential contact and travel 20th: Prime Minister announces all cafes, bars, pubs and restaurants to close 23rd: Lockdown extended in the UK 26th: Lockdown measures legally come into force 	 12th: A small number of universities announce a shift to online learning, to be completed within 2 weeks 18th: Wales, Scotland, England announce school closures from 20th March; Northern Ireland close schools to pupils immediately, and to teachers on the 20th March; England annouce schools open for education of children of key workers, and vulnerable children 20th: All UK university campuses close following the Prime Minister's announcement 	
April 2020	16th : Lockdown extended; Government outlines 5 tests to be met before restrictions eased		
May 2020	10th : Government announcement: People who cannot work from home should return to work but not use public transport to do so	10th : Prime Minister announces that a limited number of courses may return to face to face teaching	
June 2020	12th : Single adult households can form support bubble with another household; Outdoor attractions, and zoos, can open 14th June: All non-essential shops reopen	 1st: Start of phased reopening of primary schools in England 15th: Start of phased reopening of secondary schools in England 18th: Wales - local authorities determine opening plans for schools, most return by 29 June 	
July 2020	4th : First local lockdown; Some restrictions lifted in England - some pubs, restaurants, hairdressers etc reopen		
August 2020	3rd: Eat out to help out is launched in UK 14th : Reopening of indoor theatres etc	11th - 18th : Scottish Schools reopen Northern Ireland: Schools reopen for 'key cohort' students	PEP Insights Research team recruited; Friends of PEP Insight Research recruited
September 2020	14th : Rule of six introduced 22nd : Increased restrictions - working from home, and 10pm curfew for hospitality sector	Northern Ireland: Schools open for everyone	1st : Research design phase starts
October 2020	14th : 3 tier system introduced in England		

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November 2020	5th : National lockdown 2 starts 24th : Three households will be able to meet over the 5 days of Christmas	11th : Prime Minister announces that all university teaching in England must move online by 9th December enabling a travel window between 3rd- 9th of December for students to return home for Christmas	
December 2020	 2nd: Lockdown 2 ends, return to 3 tier system; Pfizer Covid vaccine approved for use in UK 8th: First vaccine administered to 91 year old Margaret Keenan. She received the Pfizer vaccine 19th: Introduction of new level 4 Christmas restrictions tightened 29th: Margaret Keenan receives her second dose of the Pfizer vaccine 30th: Oxford AstraZeneca Covid vaccine approved for use in the UK 		4th : First focus group 7th : PEP Insights Research Survey launches
January 2021	 6th: Lockdown 3 starts in England 8th: Moderna Covid vaccine approved for use in the UK 11th: First mass vaccine centres open in England 	 4th: Prime Minister announces that only a very limited number of courses may return to face to face teaching on January 25th (this are limited to key health areas); children should return to school Scotland, Northern Ireland, Wales: schools closed, provision for children of key workers, vulnerable children 5th: Boris Johnson announces that schools will be closed until at least February half term 	21st : PEP Insights Research Survey closes
February 2021	3rd : UK passes 10m Covid vaccination milestone 22nd : Government announce roadmap for lifting lockdown	22nd : Wales and Scotland: some primary students return to school starting phased return	
March 2021	29th : Outdoor gathering of 6 people or 2 households allowed; people encouraged to 'Stay local'	8th: Schools in England reopen for primary and secondary school students; Northern Ireland, younger primary pupils return to school starting phased return; Wider range of HE courses are allowed back on campus for face to face teaching (England and Scotland) – many universities decide to take a blended learning approach	11th and 18th : PEP Insights Research Focus Groups