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## Best practice policy for houses in multiple occupation.

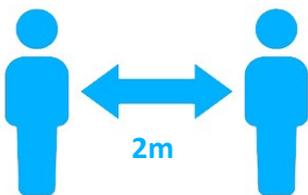
Updated: 14/06/2020

These guidelines have been produced to minimise the risk of contracting or transmitting coronavirus (COVID-19) in houses in multiple occupation (HMO's), where the occupiers are coming together to form a 'new household'. As government advice changes, so may this guidance, so please refresh this page on a regular basis or by clicking [here](#)

### Moving In

Where possible, try to coordinate a move-in date around the same few days as your housemates.

During the 2 weeks prior to your move date, limit your exposure to the risk of contracting coronavirus by observing very strict [social distancing](#) and regular hand washing.



When travelling to your new property, do not use public transport. Either use your own transport or ask a member of your current household to drive you.

Unless the property is already occupied, we will have sanitised all door handles and light switches prior to your arrival. For your own peace of mind, you should do this again when you arrive. You should bring your own personal sanitiser, disposable gloves and masks.



When moving your possessions into the property, only you or a member of the new household may do this. **No** other person may enter the house including parents and partners.

### 7 Day Acclimatisation

Each time a new person joins your household, you should observe strict social distancing with your new housemates and practice enhanced cleaning of shared areas for 7 days, limiting contact with people outside your household where possible.

When using shared facilities such as kitchens and bathrooms, you must clean and sanitise all surfaces and items that you will touch/have touched (eg taps and WC flushes, kettle, fridge doors, oven dials), before and after you use them.

You must wash up any kitchen utensils used immediately and not leave dirty items on kitchen surfaces.

Consider using a face mask and opening windows when in shared spaces during these first 7 days.

Do not share towels or tea towels.

This 7 day acclimatisation period will enable you to form a safe new household bubble after which social distancing rules will no longer be necessary within your new household.

### Government Guidance

Do not travel to your new property if you have symptoms of coronavirus.

If you or any of your new household develop [symptoms of coronavirus](#), that person should [self-isolate](#) for at least 7 days and the remaining housemates for 14 days.

You should also contact [NHS 111](#) and arrange a COVID-19 test at <https://self-referral.test-for-coronavirus.service.gov.uk/test-type>