



# SUMMARY RINGING GUIDANCE (England)

Version 2.3 updated 8<sup>th</sup> December 2021

Protection	Current guidance from CCCBR	Basis for guidance	Practicalities
<b>Facemasks</b>	Strongly recommended if ringing with unvaccinated ringers, e.g. youth groups, when teaching face to face, and if your band contains people with impaired immunity.	Facemasks are no longer required to be worn in Places of Worship by law, but they do offer protection to others (and you). Vaccination status doesn't matter as vaccinated people can still carry the virus.  Face to face / close contact teaching, for longer periods of time in the context of exponentially increasing cases, gives a very strong case for facemasks.	FFP3 masks offer the best protection both for the wearer and in preventing transmission, but they need to be fitted properly.
<b>Ventilation</b>	Ringling rooms should be well ventilated with external airflow where possible	It is well established that good ventilation decreases the risk of virus transmission. Any ventilation is better than nothing.	Ideally you should feel a draught. Good ventilation makes longer periods of ringing safer.
<b>Number of ringers</b>	No legal limit but consider limiting numbers in poorly ventilated ringing chambers	Legal restrictions have been removed but government is still urging caution in minimising the number, proximity and duration of social contacts	Ringers are more likely to feel comfortable where ringing rooms are not too crowded and are well ventilated.
<b>Social distancing</b>	No longer legally required	Legal restrictions have been removed	
<b>Duration of ringing sessions</b>	Ring for as long as the band is comfortable ringing for	Personal judgement is the basis for deciding how long to spend with others in an enclosed space	Ringers are likely to feel more comfortable in well ventilated spaces
<b>Hand sanitiser</b>	Still encouraged as it adds protection	Scientific evidence that transmission by touch is not the main cause of transmission (aerosol is a greater cause) but the risk has not gone away. Sanitiser is an additional precaution.	Remember that sanitiser needs to dry to be effective
<b>Lateral Flow Tests</b>	Useful for all ringers to use, especially if vulnerable people will be present (such as those in education).	A free tool, advised by the UK Government, which can be useful to reduce the risk of infection being unwittingly brought into the tower.	Strongly recommended if you are running youth practices – parents will expect it. Not necessary for groups of fully vaccinated adults but could still be part of the solution for ringing in poorly-ventilated towers.

**Place of Worship Guidance** <https://www.churchofengland.org/resources/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance>

**Overall Government Guidance** <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/covid-19-coronavirus-restrictions-what-you-can-and-cannot-do>