

A summary of guidance from Welsh Government, Public Health Wales & CCC at 30/09/20

As of 14 August 2020, Community Centres have been able to open as they have been identified as 'open premises' under Regulation 12 (3)(h) of **The Health Protection (Coronavirus Restriction) (No.2) (Wales) Regulations 2020 (as amended)**.

Where these premises are open, **all reasonable measures** must be taken **to minimise the risk of exposure to coronavirus** by:

- maintaining a distance of 2 metres between people both inside the building and whilst queuing outside waiting to enter.
- limiting close face to face interaction and maintaining hygiene
- providing information to those entering or working at the premises about how to minimise the risk of exposure to coronavirus.
- collecting contact information from anyone attending the premises and retaining it for 21 days under the NHS Wales Test, Trace and Protect service as of 17 August 2020 (further guidance available at <https://gov.wales/keeping-records-staff-customers-and-visitors-test-trace-protect>)
- ensuring all persons (staff and customers) wear a face covering in all indoor public spaces as of 14 September 2020 (see <https://gov.wales/face-coverings-guidance-public>)

However, persons responsible for a Community Centre must remember that **'gatherings' are not permitted indoors without a 'reasonable excuse'**, under Regulation 14 of **The Health Protection (Coronavirus Restriction) (No.2) (Wales) Regulations 2020 (as amended)**.

A **'gathering'** is defined as when two or more people are in the same place in order to do something together. The Restriction on indoor gatherings is that no person may, without a **reasonable excuse**, gather in premises indoors with any other person apart from the members of their household, their carer, or a person they are providing care to.

A full list of 21 **'Reasonable excuses'** for indoor gatherings under Regulation 14 is available at <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/wsi/2020/725/regulation/14>

Of relevance to Community Centres, this list includes the need to provide: care or assistance, including relevant personal care, where the person receiving the care is a vulnerable person; voluntary or charitable services; access to public services childcare or supervised activities for children; exercise with others, in a gathering of no more than 30 people, at a fitness studio, gym, swimming pool, other indoor leisure centre or facility or any other open premises.

In summary:

Examples of activities permitted in Community Centres	Examples of activities not permitted i.e. they are not a "reasonable excuse"
<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Childcare or supervised activities for children (e.g. Scouts, Guides, Brownies, children's holiday club)✓ Exercise classes (30 people max – Reg 14(2))✓ Dance classes (30 people max -- Reg 14(2))✓ Wedding parties and funeral celebrations (30 people max -- Reg 14(2))✓ Medical / health care (on 1 to 1 basis) especially where the person receiving the care is a vulnerable person e.g. mental health, Slimming world, counselling, chiropody, opticians, audiology, chiropractor, osteopath or blood donation services).✓ Voluntary or charitable services e.g. Food bank	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✗ Meetings / AGMs✗ Gardening club✗ Sewing/knitting club✗ Merched y Wawr / WI groups✗ Drama group✗ Choir practice✗ Band practice✗ Dog obedience classes✗ Educational classes✗ Art class✗ Indoor food market✗ Birthday parties

See separate guidance for areas under Local Lockdown e.g. <https://gov.wales/llanelli-lockdown-frequently-asked-questions#section-51294>