

Covid Secure Guidance London Fashion Week September 2021

Purpose of the document

London Fashion Week (LFW) will take place between **17th and 21st September 2021**. Associated events will take place from 5th to 26th September 2021.

All productions on the LFW schedule and associated events will be required to adhere to the British Fashion Council's stringent Covid secure guidance. Owing to the presence of individuals who have entered the UK under the London Fashion Week self-isolation exemption, the BFC's Covid secure guidance goes above and beyond those measures outlined in [Step 4 Events and Attraction Government Guidance](#).

This document summarises the steps that must be taken to ensure that all content is produced in line with the BFC's Covid secure guidance.

Events and productions in scope of this guidance

All productions on the LFW schedule and associated events will need to follow this Covid secure guidance.

The BFC owns the LFW Schedule and is responsible for allocating events and digital slots to individual designers and brands. As a pre-condition for securing a slot on the LFW schedule, all event/production organiser will be required to adhere to the guidance set out in this document. They will also be required to share their Covid risk assessments and protocols with BFC to demonstrate how they are implementing this guidance.

BFC reserves the right to remove any event/production from the LFW schedule if their suggested protocols do not align with this guidance or if the BFC observes that Covid secure guidance is not correctly implemented during their events.

Guidance for Event Organisers

All brands will be required to share the following details with the BFC, who will then write to DCMS to confirm that all brands on the schedule have submitted their COVID risk assessment and that BFC are satisfied that they are aligned with this guidance. Within the COVID risk assessment the designers should include:

- What format are they using? e.g. film, live-stream catwalk show with no audience, catwalk show with live audience etc
- How many attendees (workers only) per production including the number and names of international staff specifically for this production who have arrived in England as part of the travel exemption
- The document should specify the following.
 - The use of fixed teams/ bubbles to minimise contact between people working at the production - all productions and events will be expected to use bubbles to minimise contact between different types of workers (e.g. set designers should remain separate from make-up artists).
 - The use of PPE where 2m distancing cannot be easily achieved (eg. when having their hair styled and makeup applied)
 - The testing regime they will implement -- at a minimum, all staff will be expected to take a daily lateral flow test and the full report sent to the LFW Chief Covid Officer. Should brands wish to go beyond this requirement, they should explain how.
 - Their approach to managing positive cases - this should be in line with Government [guidance](#) and we would expect all those that have come in close contact (i.e. in the same bubble) with the individual reporting a positive test to isolate if they have not been double-vaccinated (this would include but is not limited to individuals on the exemption). If they have been double vaccinated, they would be expected to take a PCR test as soon as possible.
- Venue layouts, including the following details:
 - Occupancy calculations for Fire and for Covid social distancing
 - Ventilation systems
 - Backstage layouts, detailing dimensions between fixed fixtures and fittings ie chairs, tables, clothes rails etc
 - Covid safety signage positions
 - Sanitiser positions including number of hand wash facilities backstage and front of house
 - Detailed cleaning schedules that should identify high touch points.
- All staff are expected to monitor their own health and not attend should they feel unwell or be under self-isolation rules/ NHS Track and Trace
- All on schedule activations to display Track and Trace QR code and management to request all staff and guests/audience 'check in'. Alongside Track and Trace, event organisers will keep a detailed list of all staff and guests in attendance for 21 days post event
- Masks must be used where there is close contact e.g. fittings, hair and make up

LFW Covid-19 Chief Covid Officer

The BFC will appoint a LFW COVID-19 Chief Covid Officer(s) to oversee the LFW schedule's risk assessments and testing information. Each brand will be required to appoint a Covid-19 Officer to deliver the accreditation process and record details of all personnel who enter the production site. The LFW Chief Covid Officer (CCO) will receive confirmation of Covid secure status from the brand's Covid Officer and a copy of the negative lateral flow test results. Should a Covid Officer receive a positive test result onsite they will immediately liaise with the CCO who will initiate a 'Track & Trace' and speak with all other brands that person may have been in contact with.

Mitigations that BFC will introduce directly for all LFW events

- Covid safety signage must be implemented.
- Premises to ensure they are regularly cleaning throughout the day.
- Steps will be taken to improve ventilation as far as possible, both through the use of mechanical systems and opening windows and doors.
- Communications to all attendees around the risk mitigations in place.

Guidance for Attendees/Guests Risk Assessments

- All attendees must either present a [NHS Covid Pass](#) that shows their COVID-19 status (vaccination details or test results) or proof of a negative LFT.
- All attendees must comply with Brands' condition of entry. Brands are to publicise their condition of entry as part of their invitations. Guests will then be able to make an informed decision whether to attend or not.
- Staff and guests have been asked to arrive by personal/ private vehicle or on foot, our expectation is the use of public transport will be minimal.

Additional measures that exempt individuals will need to adhere to

Individuals arriving from [amber list countries](#) that are not double vaccinated with an MHRA approved vaccine ([see guidance here](#)) can apply for a one-off self-isolation exemption to work at London Fashion Week and its associated events. Attendees will only be able to travel to LFW from green or amber list countries. Work or events not relating to productions on-schedule at September LFW are not permissible for exempt individuals.

Scope

- The exemption is for [Amber list countries](#) only
- The exemption is for those not double vaccinated with an MHRA approved vaccine
- The permit gives potential exemption to individuals from mandatory self-isolation to travel to workplaces for LFW only subject to strict criteria and key information being supplied in advance.
- When not working, all exempt individuals must self-isolate in their accommodation
- The exemption is for England only, the Devolved Administrations will not implement comparable exemptions
- The exemption will cover from the 5th September to 22nd September 2021 only
- Applications must be submitted by 16th August or three full weeks prior to being involved in LFW. It would take five days to process and confirm applications
- The number of exemptions is restricted to a maximum of 130 international travellers. It covers a small number of roles critical to LFW events where world-leading talent cannot be sourced locally. Applicants must be able to evidence that their role is critical to LFW.

All individuals that have arrived under the Self-Isolation Exemption must adhere to the following protocols:

- Exempt individuals must not use public transport and will need to organise private transport to and from the airport and to and from the accommodation to workplaces;
- Exempt individuals can only leave isolation to travel for work purposes at LFW and will be asked to sign an agreement to say that they will stay in accommodation and share the details of their pre-booked accommodation with the BFC;
- Exempt individuals must complete a Passenger Locator Form and Negative Pre-Departure Test prior to departure;
- Exempt individuals will be required to take daily lateral flow tests in addition to those tests already required for travellers from Amber list countries (pre-departure, day two and day eight PCR);
- Exempt individuals will need to confirm that they have not been in contact with a person in the last 14 days that has been confirmed as Covid positive or have been asked to self isolate;
- Exempt individuals must provide details of entry into and departure from the UK, including entry date, departure date, mode of travel and carrier details.
- Exempt individuals must provide details of where they are staying and a contact number while in the UK. BFC and DCMS should be able to contact individuals at any point.