



London Fashion Week Safety Protocol 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 [Step 4 Events and Attractions Government Guidance](#). In addition to this, owing to the presence of individuals who have entered England under the London Fashion Week self-isolation exemption, all productions on the LFW schedule and associated events will be required to adhere to the additional London Fashion Week safety protocol set out in this document.

This document:

1. Clarifies the roles and responsibilities of the British Fashion Council in delivering London Fashion Week in line with the [Step 4 Events and Attractions Government Guidance](#);
2. Sets out additional London Fashion Week safety protocol that all event organisers on the London Fashion Week schedule must adhere to; and
3. Sets out requirements for individuals making use of the London Fashion Week self-isolation exemption.

1. Requirements of the British Fashion Council

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 organisers will be required to adhere to the protocol set out in this document as well as [Step 4 Events and Attractions Government Guidance](#). Event organisers will be required to share

their Covid risk assessments and protocols with BFC to demonstrate how they are implementing this guidance.

The BFC reserves the right to remove any event/production from the LFW schedule if their suggested protocols do not align with [Step 4 Events and Attractions Government Guidance](#) and the additional London Fashion Week safety protocol or if the BFC observes that these are not being correctly implemented during events.

Communication Plan

The BFC has responsibility for overall communications to attendees and event organisers across London Fashion Week. The BFC will use a communications strategy to brands, production agencies, model agencies, attendees and PR agencies to ensure that guidelines are adhered to and that physical contact should be minimised wherever possible. This will include releasing a statement and placing this plan online.

The BFC will directly communicate with each event to ensure that (a) the safety protocol is clearly communicated to them and that they fully understand their responsibilities, and; (b) event organisers are appropriately educated about the risks associated with attending LFW (in advance of travelling) and the mitigation measures which will need to be put in place.

London Fashion Week Covid-19 Chief Officer

The BFC will appoint a LFW Covid-19 Chief Officer(s) to oversee the LFW schedule's risk assessments and testing plan. Each brand will be required to appoint a Covid-19 Officer to deliver risk assessments 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 event organiser's Covid Officer and a copy of the negative lateral flow test results for staff. 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.

2. Requirements for event organisers

All event organisers are expected to adhere to the measures outlined in [Step 4 Events and Attractions Government Guidance](#). In addition to these measures, event organisers are also expected to observe the following protocol:

Risk Assessments

In their risk assessments all event organisers will be required to share the following details with the BFC, who will then write to DCMS to confirm that all event organisers on the schedule have submitted their Covid risk assessment and that BFC are satisfied that it aligns with this protocol as well as government guidance. All risk assessments must provide details about the following:

- The format that will be used for the event, e.g. film, live-stream catwalk show with no audience, catwalk show with live audience.
- The number of workers per production, including the names and contact details of international staff who have arrived in England as part of the self-isolation exemption.
- The use of fixed teams/bubbles to minimise contact between people working at the production. All productions and events will be expected to use fixed teams/bubbles to minimise contact between different types of workers (e.g. set designers should remain separate from make-up artists).
- The use of masks and additional relevant PPE for close contact activities where social distancing cannot be easily achieved. These activities include hair styling, make-up application, and fittings.
- The reduction of contact between people through, for example, keeping activity times as short as possible or through the use of screens and barriers to separate people or the use of back-to-back or side-to-side working for staff.
- All on-schedule events will need to display a [NHS QR code](#) and management will request all staff and guests to 'check in'. Alongside Test and Trace, event organisers will keep a detailed list of all staff and guests in attendance for 21 days post event.
- The testing regime that will be implemented: at a minimum, all staff will be expected to take a daily lateral flow test and report their results to the event's Covid Officer, who will then report it to the LFW Chief Covid Officer.
- The approach to managing positive cases: this should be in line with Government self-isolation [guidance](#) and we would expect all those that have come in close contact with the individual reporting a positive test to isolate if they have not been double vaccinated. If individuals have been double vaccinated, they would be expected to take a PCR test as soon as possible.
- Backstage press interviews should be conducted prior to the show, if they take place post show they must be in a separate, well ventilated area on a one to one basis
- The layout of venues, including the following details:
 - Occupancy calculations for fire safety and Covid social distancing, based on 2 metres social distancing advice for backstage activities. There are no social distancing restrictions front of house.
 - Ventilation systems to improve fresh air flow in poorly ventilated spaces, including through the provision of additional mechanical ventilation or opening

windows. Where ventilation cannot be improved, the risk assessment should outline the steps that have been taken to reduce the number of people in the space.

- Backstage layouts, detailing dimensions between fixed fixtures and chairs, tables, clothes rails etc.
- Implementation of appropriate Covid safety signage.
- The use of queuing systems or staggered entry and exit, particularly in areas where people congregate at higher densities, such as near bars or toilets and at pass check points.
- Sanitiser positions, including the number of handwash facilities backstage and front of house.
- Detailed cleaning schedules that should identify high touch points.

During the running of events, all event organisers will be expected to adhere to those measures outlined in [Step 4 Events and Attractions Government Guidance](#). In addition to these measures, event organisers are also expected to adhere to the following Covid safe protocols:

Managing your workforce

- Each day all staff will be expected to take a lateral flow test (LFT) and report their results to their own Covid Officer onsite, who in turn reports to the LFW Chief Covid Officer.
- The Covid Officer for a particular event is responsible for making sure that staff report their LFT results [online](#) or via the NHS COVID-19 App.
- If staff test positive, they must self-isolate in line with [government guidance](#).
- All staff must use masks for close contact activities where social distancing cannot be easily achieved, such as for hair styling, make-up application, and fittings.
- All staff must wash or sanitise their hands before and after handling items and clothing.

Reducing Risks to Visitors

- All event organisers must provide clear pre-event communications to guests on how to visit the event safely. Events 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.
- All event organisers must outline to guests that they must not come to the event if they are displaying any symptoms of or have tested positive for Covid-19.
- All event organisers must reinforce their Covid protocol during events through the use of signage or staff. Guidance should take into account those who do not speak English as a language or those with protected characteristics, such as people with hearing or vision impairments.

- All events must display a [NHS QR code](#) so that visitors can check in using the NHS COVID-19 app. Individual events are responsible for facilitating this.
- **All attendees** are required to use the **NHS COVID Pass** to show vaccination details or to separately provide proof of full vaccination with a UK approved vaccine or a negative lateral flow test taken within the past 48hrs.
- All events must minimise unnecessary contact through using online booking and prepayment, where possible, or using one way systems or staggered entry and exit to minimise crowding.
- All events must provide allocated seating where possible.
- All events must use stewards, ushers or licensed door supervisors to manage attendees.

Managing Facilities

- All events must provide handwashing facilities and hand sanitiser stations, particularly in high-traffic or higher risk areas, such as receptions, lifts and bathroom facilities.
- All events must ensure handwashing facilities or hand sanitiser stations are available near shared facilities, equipment and objects.
- All events must ensure that handwashing and hand sanitiser facilities are checked and refilled regularly.

3. Requirements for individuals arriving in England under the London Fashion Week Self-Isolation Exemption

Individuals arriving from [amber list countries](#) who have not been fully vaccinated under an approved vaccination programme in Europe and the USA can apply for a partial self-isolation exemption in order to work at LFW and associated events. This includes some activities commencing in advance of LFW itself, including filming at various locations in London from 5th September onwards, to produce content for use at LFW events. The exemption will only apply to a limited number of professionals travelling from amber list countries who would otherwise be required to self-isolate on arrival in England. These individuals must be critical to the delivery of LFW. Their roles may include: models, buyers, photographers, casting directors and makeup artists.

The BFC will carry out an initial assessment of each request for exemption. If satisfied that an individual meets the eligibility criteria specified below, they will submit the request for exemption to DCMS for approval. Exempt individuals will only be able to travel to LFW from amber list countries. Exempt individuals must self-isolate when not working.

Eligibility for Self-Isolation Exemption

- The exemption is for individuals carrying out work that is integral to LFW or a specific associated LFW event and where world-leading talent cannot be sourced locally. Applicants must be able to evidence that their role is critical to LFW.
- The BFC must receive written confirmation from individuals applying for the exemption that they will comply with the conditions of the exemption, [Step 4 Events and Attractions Government Guidance](#) and the additional safety protocol to be implemented during LFW.
- The exemption is for individuals arriving from [Amber list countries](#) only.
- The exemption is for those not double vaccinated under a UK approved vaccination programme.
- The exemption is for England only.
- The exemption will come into force on 5th September and be active until 22nd September only.
- Applications must be submitted to the British Fashion Council by 3rd September. It will take up to five days to process and confirm.

Protocol for Exempt Individuals

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. The BFC should be able to contact individuals at any point;
- Exempt individuals must follow the LFW safety protocol, including the requirement to work in fixed teams and take lateral flow tests each day.

Contact Details

All documents and current information can be found here [British Fashion Council - COVID-19 Updates](#)

LFW Risk Assessments to be sent to riskassessments@britishfashioncouncil.com

Submission for Travel Exemptions to be sent to travelexemption@britishfashioncouncil.com