Step-by-step lifting of 1.5 metre rule

Increasing numbers of people have been vaccinated against coronavirus. This means that we can begin lifting the 1.5 metre rule step-by-step, starting at secondary vocational schools (MBOs), higher professional education institutions (HBOs) and universities. After that, depending on the number of hospital admissions and vaccination coverage, the rule will be lifted in the rest of society.

### Current measures extended until 19 September inclusive:
- Bars, restaurants and cafés closed from midnight. Assigned seats required.
- Events permitted to limited extent only.
- Wear a face mask where required.
- Work from home, unless that is not possible.
- Travel outside peak hours.

### Whether steps will be taken on the date given depends on the number of hospital admissions and on vaccination coverage.

**From 20 September:**
- 1.5-metre distancing no longer required.
- No limit on number of people in one space.*
- Advice to work from home lifted.
- Face mask requirement lifted.
- Restaurants, bars and cafés return to regular opening hours. Nightclubs and similar venues closed.

**From 1 November:**
- All remaining measures lifted.
- Coronavirus entry pass system will end.
- Nightclubs open.

**Basic rules (even after 20 September and after 1 November):**
- Wash your hands often.
- Cough and sneeze into your elbow.
- COVID-19 symptoms? Stay home and get tested as soon as possible.
- Ensure a good flow of fresh air.

### From 30 August: on-site teaching at MBOs, HBOs and universities:
- 1.5-metre distancing not required.
- Face masks required, except when seated.
- Maximum of 75 students in one space.

* No more than 75 students in one space at MBOs, HBOs and universities until 31 October inclusive.