

NatCen

Social Research that works for society

OUR COVID-19 SAFETY MEASURES

As Britain's largest independent social research agency, we've worked, for the last 50 years, on behalf of government and charities to find out what people really think about important social issues and how Britain is run.

As leaders in social research, we know the impact of COVID-19 will shape society for years to come. Face-to-face data collection (i.e. interviewing in person) remains an essential method of data collection to ensure everyone's views are represented.

We want to reassure you that we are working in line with government guidance to minimise the risk of COVID-19 transmission.



What measures have the National Centre for Social Research introduced to ensure safe working during the COVID-19 pandemic?

- Interviewers and nurse/biomedical fieldworkers will self-assess their health before working and will re-arrange their working days if they are unwell or display symptoms of COVID-19
- Social distancing will be observed by our interviewers and nurse/biomedical fieldworkers where possible and interviews will be carried out at a 2-metre social distance and 1-metre as a minimum. If you are taking part in a biomedical interview, then the fieldworker may need to be close to you for a short duration.
- Interviewers and nurse/biomedical fieldworkers are supplied with face masks and will check whether you would like them to wear a face mask before entering your home. If you are taking part in a biomedical interview, then the fieldworker may need to wear gloves and apron at points in the interview.
- Interviewers and nurse/biomedical fieldworkers will sanitise their hands and equipment before entering your home, during the interview if they need to pass anything to you and after every interview.
- Alternative interview options such as a remote telephone or video interview may be offered to you if you are unable to be interviewed in your home.
- Our interviewers and nurse/biomedical fieldworkers will carry out a household health screening questionnaire with you before making an appointment and in advance of any in-home visits.
- Could we please ask for your support in ensuring a safe interviewing environment by;
 - Opening doors to reduce the contact our interviewer has with surfaces in your home,
 - Choosing a place for the interview to take place that supports social distancing,
 - Opening a window or external door to provide ventilation in the room where the interview will take place,
- The interview (if non-biomedical) can take place outdoors if you have a private garden or outside space.