A care home will only be able to restart communal activity if it has had no COVID-19 cases or has been declared free of active cases by Public Health 28 days from last positive test or symptoms and is actively participating in the care home workers testing programme.

Care homes should undertake a risk assessment to support the safe reintroduction of communal activity.

It will be important to stagger any communal activity to limit the number of people in a room at any one time.

Residents should wash their hands and/or apply alcohol based hand gel before and after participating in activities.

Staff should be assigned to support any activity. Chairs will need to be spaced apart and there should be good air ventilation. Avoid activities that require close contact.

Staff should wear Personal Protective Equipment (mask, gloves, apron). Only care home staff and residents should be in a communal area.

Eating together is an important part of care home life. To ensure safety of residents, meal times may need to be staggered.

Regardless of the activity, residents will need to maintain a 2m safe distance from others.

Communal areas should be cleaned thoroughly between activities especially frequently touched surfaces.

All residents should wash their hands afterwards. If there was any accidental physical contact residents may need to change and shower as appropriate.