

Lockdown has meant most of us haven't been able to head out with our instructors, there has been a group that has been allowed to continue taking lessons and tests: Key workers. Think nurses, teachers and the other critical people who have stepped up and looked out for us during these tough times.

To ensure that you – and your instructor – will have the safest possible lessons, guidance has been published by driving instructor collective NASP (National Associations Strategic Partnership) to help instructors deliver lessons in a format that reduces the risk posed by the inherent lack of social distancing in cars. We will follow this Covid Safety procedure.

On the day of the lesson, your instructor will call or text you, asking if you or anyone in your household has any symptoms of COVID-19 within the last seven days – or have been in contact with someone who has within the last 14 days.

If you have, your lesson will be cancelled. Remember, even if you feel fine, you could be one of the many people who don't show any symptoms, and by continuing with a lesson, you could endanger your instructor's life

What you should do before your driving lesson

If you're given the all-clear for the lesson to go ahead, your instructor will advise you to do the following:

- Wear clothing that covers as much of your body as possible, including your arms and legs. You should also wrap up warm during cold spells as the windows will most likely be open during the lesson to improve ventilation.
- Wash your hands for at least 20 seconds immediately before leaving your home for your lesson.
- Wear disposable gloves if you wish to – but only put them on just before getting into the car.
- Meet the instructor by the car itself, and not by your front door. Do not approach immediately but give your instructor time to sanitise the car and controls.
- Expect the instructor to chat with you before you're allowed to get in the car; this is an opportunity for them to check that you are not displaying any symptoms, and to also check you have washed your hands (or have brought hand sanitiser with you). Your instructor may wish to take your temperature using a forehead thermometer.
- Expect the instructor to have this chat with you at the beginning of each and every lesson. If the instructor is not 100% happy, they will cancel your lesson on the spot. Please don't take it personally – they are just trying to keep everyone safe.
- If you are a new client, you will be asked to hold up your provisional driving licence so the instructor can check it electronically there and then.

Your instructor will tell you that key surfaces inside and outside the car have been cleaned. These include: Internal and external door handles • windows/mirror controls • seat/head restraints • seatbelt and its connection • gear lever • steering wheel • indicator and wiper stalks • car keys • training resources.