

Ness Botanic Gardens

Statement 12 January 2021

We are mindful that, at this time of year, we would usually be looking forward to the summer by announcing our extended summer opening hours, which typically begin 1 March.

Due to the ongoing impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic we continue to monitor the situation and will make an announcement regarding our summer opening arrangements before the end of February.

In the meantime, we continue to remain open from 10am daily, with last garden entry at 4pm. Please note that all of our buildings remain closed, including the visitor centre, gift shop and Botanic Kitchen Café. The Botanic Kitchen Café is offering a take away menu only. The toilets in the garden remain open.

Members and visitors are reminded that they should travel to Ness Botanic Gardens only for the purposes of exercise. Members and visitors should not travel outside their local area, which has been defined by the Government as being the village, town or part of the city in which you live.

If alone, visitors can meet with one other person, or with their household or support bubble. Exercise should be limited to one outing per day and social distancing and good hand hygiene should be maintained at all times.

We would encourage all Members and visitors to check Government guidance before travelling, which includes information on transport and who you can exercise with. The guidance can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/national-lockdown-stay-at-home>

Access to the gardens will be provided via a window located to the left of the visitor centre, where staff will be ready to help. We are able to take cash and card payments, although card payments are preferred where possible. We will also continue to undertake Test and Trace and will continue to display our QR code so that Members and visitors can 'check in' via an electronic device should they prefer.

Ensuring the health and safety of our Members, visitors, staff, students and volunteers has remained our priority throughout the Covid-19 pandemic and this remains the case during this period.

With this in mind, we ask that visitors comply with governmental guidance and if visitors are feeling unwell, that they stay at home and get well before visiting us.

We are extremely grateful to all of our visitors, Members, students and volunteers for their patience and support during this time and we are pleased to be offering an attractive outdoor space for people to enjoy during these difficult times.