

5 things that may never be the same after the Coronavirus lockdown

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What has the coronavirus lockdown shown us about the way we live, and what will change after it?

We do not know when life will go back to normal but as neighbourliness, nature and air quality resurges, Britons might decide they do not entirely want it to.

Here are some of the changes the Covid-19 pandemic might bring.

Work



Many people lucky enough to have desk-based jobs have reported the transition from office-based to home-based working to be relatively straight forward.

Video calls and remote working is a lot more reliable than it once was, and could potentially open up the workplace to people previously shut out.

James Taylor, head of social change at the charity, Scope, said: "Businesses that work flexibly thrive, so long may this continue after the pandemic has faded."

The average Briton's journey to work is around 58 minutes a day, and post-shut down many will be sad to relinquish the extra few minutes in bed or a little more family time to be in the office for 9am.

More people are likely to ask to work from home one to two days per week, easing pressure on the transport system and reducing stress among the workforce.

Mayor of London Sadiq Khan said in a recent interview with the PA news agency lack of progress on toxic air is the biggest frustration of his time in office, despite measures introduced to limit the most polluting vehicles.

But the current change to the status quo might mean the Old Smoke and other UK cities are never quite the same again.

Local shops

THE BREAD SHOP BAKERY

PIES & TASTIES
COFFEE TO GO ONLY £1

SANDWICHES
SANDWICHES £1

BREAD
SAUSAGE BUTTY £1

PIES & TASTIES
COFFEE TO GO ONLY £1

FRUIT & VEG. SALADS

While images of empty shelves and tales of month-long waiting lists for deliveries from major supermarket chains have taken over social media, most corner shops have kept calm and well stocked.

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well provide a much needed catalyst for shopping locally and supporting small stores.”

Community

After years of political arguments and division, all of a sudden we are a nation dreaming up ways to help our communities.

From clapping the NHS, hundreds of thousands of people signing up as crisis volunteers or just getting to know your neighbours, the past few weeks have been full of stories of solidarity.

We could be in for a year of periods of greater and lesser social isolation as we wait for a vaccine to be developed and while it will be tough, this time of crisis is bringing us all together.

Childcare

Parents have found they are not only breadwinners, but also teachers and live-in entertainers for their children, placing a huge amount of stress on an already difficult situation.

One head teacher at a primary school in Essex advises parents not to put too much pressure on themselves.

“What this will show is just how much training teachers have to do their job,” she said.

“At the end of the day, parents should only try and teach their children what they are comfortable teaching them, and should focus on just keeping them happy and busy and using their brains.”