

Coronavirus

Herd immunity

hɜːd ɪmjuːnɪti

When a large percentage of the population is immune to a virus through vaccination or recovery. This provides more protection for those who are not immune yet.

The government is trying to achieve herd immunity

Outbreak

aʊtbreɪk

A sudden increase in the number of people with a disease, normally in one location

There has been a coronavirus outbreak

Threat

θreɪt

A danger/a hazard

Coronavirus is a threat to public health

Lockdown

lɒkdaʊn

Restrictions in the places you can go

We are currently living under lockdown because of coronavirus

Social distancing

səʊʃəl dɪstənsɪŋ

To have a minimum distance between people and to avoid any contact

At the moment, we have strict social distancing rules

Symptoms

sɪmptəmz

A physical or mental sign that you have an illness or injury

A cough is a symptom of coronavirus

Vaccine

væksɪn

Abbreviation for vaccination. A substance that is injected into the body and provides immunity against a disease/virus.

Hopefully, scientists will discover a vaccine for COVID-19

Field hospital

fɪld hɒspɪtl

A temporary medical facility to help people get better. This is normally built when there are too many people for the normal hospitals.

Now, we have 10 field hospitals

ICU

aɪ-siː-juː

Acronym for intensive-care unit. An area in a hospital that has more intensive medical care. People go here if they are seriously ill.

He was taken to the ICU

Mask

mɑːsk

A piece of material that you put on your mouth and nose to prevent spreading something

We need to wear masks on public transport

Swab Testing

swɒb testɪŋ

A sample of saliva is taken from your nose or mouth and this is tested to see if you have a virus

Yesterday, I had a swab test

Screening

skriːnɪŋ

The process of testing somebody for a virus

Screening is important for all health and care workers