

**Scotland's Covid-19 restrictions are to be eased, with nightclubs reopening, large indoor events resuming and social distancing rules dropped.**

The changes will take effect from Monday 24 January after a "significant fall" in new case numbers.

However, people are still being asked to work from home and to take lateral flow tests before meeting with others.

First Minister Nicola Sturgeon told MSPs that Scotland had "turned the corner on the Omicron wave".

Guidance advising adults against meeting up with more than three households at a time will also be scrapped, along with curbs on indoor contact sports.

And ministers have decided against extending the vaccine passport scheme to more hospitality settings "at this stage".

- **What are the Covid rules in Scotland?**
- **What happens when Covid becomes endemic?**
- **How does Scotland's vaccine passport work?**

Ms Sturgeon said that while Omicron is still infecting "large numbers of people", there had been a significant fall in the number of new infections over the past two weeks.

A total of 20,268 positive cases have been reported over the past three days, compared to 36,526 over the same three days last week.

The percentage of tests coming back positive has dropped from almost 30% in early January to under 20% now.

It is now thought that the Omicron wave peaked in the first week of January, and the number of people being admitted to hospital with the virus is also falling.