

Guide to the Use Classes Order in England (from 1 August 2021)

This is intended as an initial reference guide only. Reference must be made to the Use Classes Order 1987 (as amended) and the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015 (as amended) for limitations (e.g. floorspace maxima), restrictions, conditions and details of any requirements for any application for determination as to whether prior approval of the local planning authority will be required (which may include the prior approval of building operations). There have been numerous amendments to these Orders and reference to consolidated versions is recommended.

Use Class	Use	Permitted Change to
		(Class of Schedule 2, Part 3)
B2	General Industrial Use for industrial processes other than one falling within class E(g) (<i>previously class B1</i>) (excluding incineration purposes, chemical treatment or landfill or hazardous waste).	Class B8 (PD Class I)
B8	Storage or distribution This class includes open air storage.	To C3, subject prior approval (PD Class P)
C1	Hotels Hotels, boarding and guest houses where no significant element of care is provided (excludes hostels).	To a state-funded school falling within Class F.1(a) (PD Class T) (and back to previous lawful use (PDC lass U)
C2	Residential institutions Residential care homes, hospitals, nursing homes, boarding schools, residential colleges and training centres.	To a state-funded school falling within Class F.1(a) (PD Class T) (and back to previous lawful use (PDC lass U)
C2a	Secure residential institutions Use for a provision of secure residential accommodation, including use as a prison, young offenders institution, detention centre, secure training centre, custody centre, short term holding centre, secure hospital, secure local authority accommodation or use as a military barracks	To a state-funded school falling within Class F.1(a) (PD Class T) (and back to previous lawful use (PDC lass U)
C3	Dwellinghouses C3(a) covers use by a single person or a family (a couple whether married or not, a person related to one another with members of the family of one of the couple to be treated as members of the family of the other), an employer and certain domestic employees (such as an au pair, nanny, nurse, governess, servant, chauffeur, gardener, secretary and personal assistant), a carer and the person receiving the care and a foster parent and foster child. C3(b) covers up to six people living together as a single household and receiving care e.g. supported housing schemes such as those for people with learning disabilities or mental health problems. C3(c) allows for groups of people (up to six) living together as a single household. This allows for those groupings that do not fall within the C4 HMO definition, but which fell with the previous C3 use class, to be provided for i.e. a small religious community may fall into this section as could a homeowner who is living with a lodger.	To Class C4 (PD Class L)
C4	Houses in multiple occupation Small shared houses occupied by three and six unrelated individuals, as their only or main residence, who share basic amenities such as a kitchen or bathroom.	Permitted change to Class C3

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		(Class of Schedule 2, Part 3)	
F.1	Commercial, business and services uses In 11 parts, Class E more broadly covers uses previously defined in the revoked Classes A1/2/3, B1, D1(a-b) and 'indoor sport' from D2(e): E(a) Display or retail sale of goods, other than hot food E(b) Sale of food and drink for consumption (mostly) on the premises E(c) Provision of: E(c)(i) Financial services, E(c)(ii) Professional services (other than health or medical services), or E(c)(iii) Other appropriate services in a commercial, business or service locality E(d) Indoor sport, recreation or fitness (not involving motorised vehicles or firearms or use as a swimming pool or skating rink). E(e) Provision of medical or health services (except the use of premises attached to the residence of the consultant or practitioner) E(f) Creche, day nursery or day centre (not including a residential use) E(g) Uses which can be carried out in a residential area without detriment to its amenity: E(g)(i) Offices to carry out any operational or administrative functions E(g)(ii) Research and development of products or processes E(g)(iii) Industrial Processes Learning and non-residential Institutions In two main parts, Class F covers uses previously defined in the revoked classes D1, 'outdoor sport', 'swimming pools' and 'skating rinks' from D2(e), as well as newly defined local community uses.	NB - Any external alterations to buildings (i.e. shopfront alterations or extraction/ventilation equipment will require planning permission) Advertisement consent may also be required Temporary changes of use only, see below Any building in any Use Class and any land within its curtilage, except use class F.2, can be used as a state-funded school for up to 2 academic years (with limitations and conditions). (Part 4, Class C)	
	 F1(b) Display of works of art (otherwise than for sale or hire) F1(c) Museums F1(d) Public libraries or public reading rooms F1(e) Public halls or exhibition halls F1(f) Public worship or religious instruction (or in connection with such use) F1(g) Law courts 		
F.2	Local community uses Use as defined in 4 parts: F2(a) Shops (mostly) selling essential goods, including food, where the shop's premises do not exceed 280sq/ m and there is no other such facility within 1000m. F2(b) Halls or meeting places for the principal use of the local community F2(c) Areas or places for outdoor sport or recreation (not involving motorized vehicles or firearms) F2(d) Indoor or outdoor swimming pools or skating rinks	No permitted change	

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			(Class of Schedule 2, Part 3)	
Sui	No class sp	ecified	- Casino, betting office, pay day loan shop	
Generis		are specifically excluded from classification by legislation, and come 'sui generis'. These are:	or hot food takeaway to Class E, subject to prior notification (PD Class A)	
Sui Generis is a Latin term that, in this context, means 'in a class of its own'	 Alkali worl Amuseme Betting off Bingo halls Casinos Cinemas Concert ha Dance hall Drinking e Fuel station Hiring, sell Hostels (pi) Hot food t food is mo Launderett Nightclubss Pay day lo Public hou Retail ware Scrap yard the breaki Tattoo Par Taxi busine Theatres Venues foi 	k nt arcades/centres or funfairs fices/shops alls s s alls s stablishments with expanded food provision ns ing and/or displaying motor vehicles roviding no significant element of care) akeaways (for sale of hot food where consumption of that stly taken off the premises) tes an shops ises, wine bars, or drinking establishments ehouse clubs ls, or a yard for the storage/distribution or minerals and/or ng of motor vehicles lour	 Public house, wine bar, or drinking establishment to drinking establishment with expanded food provision - and vice versa (PD Class AA) Betting office, pay day loan shop to a mixed use for any purpose within Class E and as up to 2 flats, subject to prior approval (PD Class G) Betting office or pay day loan shop to a mixed use betting office or pay day loan shop and as up to 2 flats, subject to prior approval (PD Class G) Mixed use betting office or pay day loan shop and as up to 2 flats, to use for any purpose within Class E (PD Class H) Mixed use as a betting office or pay day loan shop and as up to 2 flats to a use as a betting office or pay day loan shop (PD Class H) Launderette; betting office, pay day loan shop, hot food takeaway or one of these uses in a mixed use with a dwellinghouse to dwellinghouse, subject to prior approval (PD Class M) Amusement centre or casino to C3, subject to prior approval (PD Class N) 	
Additional	Agriculture	To C3 (dwelling houses), subject to prior approval (Part 3, Class Q)		
changes of	Buildings	Flexible changes to B8, C1, E, subject to prior approval: new us	se is sui generis (Part 3, Class R)	
use	Temporary change of use	To a state-funded school, subject to prior approval (Part 3, Class S) Any building in any Use Class and any land within its curtilage, except use class F.2, can be used as a state -funded school for up to 2 academic years (with limitations and conditions). (Part 4, Class C)		
		Vacant use class C1, C2, C2A, or E land (with all buildings demolished) may be developed to provide temporary school buildings, and the land used as a state-funded school for up to 3 academic years, subject to prior approval, and with limitations and conditions, including that the building must be removed at the end of the third academic year. (Part 4, Class CA)		
		Betting office, pay day loan shop, hot food takeaway or Class E to a flexible use falling within Class E, Cl F.1(b) (display of art), Class F.1(c) museum, Class F.1(d) (public library or public reading room); or Class F.1(e) (public hall or exhibition hall),		
	for up to three years continuous (Part 4, Class D) Restaurants and cafes, drinking establishments and drinking establishments with expanded food provision to temporarily provide takeaway food (Part 4, Class DA)			