

Precautions to mitigate risk of reopening Church premises.

Based on BUGB document “Coronavirus: Guidance on re-opening Baptist Church buildings” Version 1.16, 13 Aug 2020.

Reference has also been made to the World Health Organisation advice on cleaning:

<https://www.who.int/news-room/q-a-detail/q-a-considerations-for-the-cleaning-and-disinfection-of-environmental-surfaces-in-the-context-of-covid-19-in-non-health-care-settings>

and the UK Government document:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-for-the-safe-use-of-places-of-worship-during-the-pandemic-from-4-july>

Preamble

This document lists the mitigations to be applied to events taking place in Church premises to minimise the risk to participants, officials, and volunteers of infection by corona virus Covid-19. It is an appendix to the risk assessment, “Use of Church building during Covid-19 emergency”.

Preparation

Anyone displaying symptoms of Covid-19 (new persistent cough, shortness of breath, loss of taste/smell) must not attend. Posters will emphasise the point.

Posters will be displayed on social distancing and asking people with symptoms not to enter the building.

Vulnerable persons will be advised not to attend or otherwise in line with current government advice.

Attendees will be required to wear a face covering in line with current government guidance even when 2m social distancing can be maintained. Non-surgical face masks will be made available to those requesting them.

Visitors will be reminded not to gather in groups, except with members of their own household, inside or outside the building.

Provision may be made for individuals who fall into any of the vulnerable categories.

Control measures

On entry to the building everyone will be required to use the hand sanitizer.

Doors will be kept open where possible to reduce contact with handles etc. Windows may be opened to increase ventilation, depending on weather conditions.

2m social distancing measures will be maintained where possible, including the arrival and departure.

There will be no physical contact between persons from different households/ bubbles

The flow of visitors will be controlled to avoid ‘pinch points’ by one-way traffic or other means.

Surfaces likely to be touched will be cleaned before an event.

Seating arrangements will be adapted for 2m social distancing.

Toilets will be cleaned before each event.

Toilets will be supplied with disposable towels (fabric towels to be removed), and hand sanitizer. There will be a limit of 1 person allowed into a toilet at once. However, young children may be accompanied by an adult.

All waste bins will be emptied after an event.

The building will not be used again for 48 hours or else will be cleaned between uses.

A register of attendees (for track & trace purposes) will be created and kept for 21 days. A signing-in sheet is a suitable way of doing this. A privacy statement will be displayed to attendees.

An action plan will notify attendees in the case of one of them subsequently testing positive for the virus, either by text, email or telephone within the 21-day period of data retention.

Document Revision

| Issue | Date | Revision |
|-------|----------------|--|
| 1. | 12 July 2020 | |
| 2. | 27 July 2020 | Latest version of BUGB guidance referenced Advice to vulnerable persons extended 2m social distancing specified Provision of face masks changed from 'may' to 'will' Time building left between uses reduced from 72 hours Other minor changes made for clarity Reference to wedding procedure removed, verbal check removed |
| 3. | 12 August 2020 | Title brought into line with file description Latest version (1.15) of BUGB guidance referenced Wearing of face coverings now made mandatory All waste bins to be emptied at the end of an event not just those in toilets |
| 4. | 15 August 2020 | Latest version (1.16) of BUGB guidance referenced Clarification added with respect to wearing of face coverings |

Specific for external hirers

For external bookings, the risk assessment and this appendix will be sent to the hirers. They will be asked to ensure their guests have read it and agreed.

THS will require sight of signed statement to the above.