

## **Precautions to mitigate risk of reopening Church premises.**

Based on BUGB document “Coronavirus: Guidance on re-opening Baptist Church buildings” Version 1.23, 1 Oct 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. 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.

Seating arrangements will be adapted for social distancing.

Premises will be cleaned in line with usual practices, paying attention to surfaces likely to be touched.

Toilets will be supplied with disposable towels, soap, and hand sanitizer. There will be a limit of 1 person allowed into a toilet at any one time. However, young children may be accompanied by an adult.

All waste bins will be emptied in line with usual practice.

The building will not be used again for 72 hours or else will be cleaned between uses.

A register of attendees (for test & trace purposes) will be created and kept for 21 days. An NHS QR Code is available for use at each entrance. A privacy statement will be displayed to attendees.

Attendees subsequently testing positive for Covid-19 or developing symptoms within 21 days of their attendance should notify the minister, Revd. Jane Robson on 07947 135853. Follow-up action will be taken as per the latest government guidance.

## Document Revision

Issue	Date	Revision
1.	12 July 2020	First issue.
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
5	8 Oct 2020	Revisions to cleaning and Test & Trace details. Latest BU Guidance referenced. Agreed for issue