

In line with Government guidance we have introduced measures to ensure that all those coming into the building can do so safely. Our aim is to minimise the potential for spreading of COVID-19 among worshippers, and those working/volunteering within the building.

It is important to read this information before coming into the building and please do ask questions if there is anything you are unsure about.

1. Do not come if you are showing symptoms of COVID-19

- a new continuous cough,
- a high temperature
- a loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell

If you have any of these symptoms you should self-isolate at home immediately with other members of your household.

2. Reduced capacity

We have limited the number of people attending to 50 allow for facilitating social distancing; we have undertaken a risk assessment taking into account the total floor space as well as likely pinch points and busy areas such as entrances, exits. This is why it is important to let us know if you are planning to attend.

3. Arrival

We ask that when you come to the entrance you are aware of other people and come into the building 1 person/household at a time. Everyone should wash or sanitise their hands on entry. Please allow time for each person to use the hand sanitiser as they come in.

4. Keeping a record of those attending

We will be keeping an accurate temporary record of those attending any meetings for 21 days, so that we can assist NHS Test and Trace with requests for that data if needed for contact tracing and the investigation of local outbreaks.

5. Follow the signs

We have put signs in the building to guide you. For frequently used places, we have marked areas using floor tape to help you maintain social distance.

6. Hygiene

On entering and leaving a place of worship, everyone, including staff, should wash their hands thoroughly for at least 20 seconds using soap and water or use hand sanitiser if hand washing facilities are not available.

7. Social distancing

Where possible, adhere to social distancing of at least 2 metres or 1 metre with risk mitigation (where 2 metres is not viable) between households. Note: use of mitigations means things like wearing a face-covering or turning your face away.

8. Singing

We are asking you not to sing when we gather together in the building as the government guidance advises that singing, shouting and/or playing of instruments that are blown into should be specifically avoided in worship. This is because there is a possible additional risk of infection in environments where individuals are singing as a group, and this applies even if social distancing is being observed or face coverings are used.

9. Toilets

Please be especially aware of social distancing waiting to use the toilets. We ask that in line with government advice you use sanitise your hands before entering the toilet.

10. Refreshments

We will not be serving tea and coffee at this time.

11. Cleaning

We have a cleaning schedule and all surfaces, especially those most frequently touched such as door handles, are regularly cleaned.

12. Masks

From 8 August 2020, face coverings are ***required by law*** to be worn in public indoor settings including places of worship (there are valid exemptions for some individuals and groups to not wear a face covering)

13. Advice for those who are clinically vulnerable

Certain groups of people may be at increased risk of severe disease from COVID-19, including people who are aged 70 or older, regardless of medical conditions. Those who fall within this group are advised to stay at home as much as possible and, if they do go out, to take particular care to minimise contact with others outside of their household.

14. Advice for those who are extremely clinically vulnerable

The NHS has written to people who are considered to be extremely clinically vulnerable to COVID-19, advising them to shield. Shielded patients are currently advised not to meet more than one person from outside of their own household, and therefore not currently advised to attend places of worship. From Monday 6 July, those shielding individuals may choose to gather in groups of up to 6 people outdoors and form a support bubble with another household, they will therefore still be advised not to attend places of worship indoors.

Please note: Advice for both the clinically vulnerable and extremely clinically vulnerable is however advisory and they can choose how to manage their own risks.

15. Finally please respect these guidelines

We probably have different opinions about how important these steps are – but we ask that you consider others and do your best to follow this guidance. Please don't be offended if a steward reminds you of any of them while you are in the building.