

Covid-19 Risk Assessment Form

Location/Dept: Milnrow Evangelical Church, 22 New Street, Milnrow, Rochdale, OL16 3PQ			Date Assessed: 30/04/2022		Assessed by: Craig Warren		
Task/ Activity: Opening the Church Risk Assessment			Review Date: Monthly		Reference Number: Version 11		
Activity/ Task	Hazard / Risk	Persons at risk	Controls in place	Severity (1-5)	Likelihood (1-5)	Risk / Priority	Additional controls
Any person attending the church building	Currently at Step 4	Any person attending the church building	<p>As part of the risk assessment, this document identifies the precautions put in place to minimise the risk of exposure to Covid 19 by any person attending the church building. All those who choose to attend church meetings should understand that even with these precautions, there will remain some risk, which people show to be acceptable to them by their attendance. This has been written with reference to the guidance for living safely with respiratory infections, including COVID-19, published on 1st Apr 2022 and updated on 13th Apr 2022. (https://www.gov.uk/guidance/living-safely-with-respiratory-infections-including-covid-19)</p> <p>The 11am and 6pm Sunday services at the church building are planned each week with a communion service at 10:15am on the third Sunday of each month. The Thursday evening Bible study, youth, ladies' and men's meetings also now take place in the church building.</p> <p>The services will be live streamed to enable those who are self-isolating or vulnerable and</p>	3	2	6	<p>In accordance with the government Covid 19 Response-Spring 2021 (published 22 February 2021) the country is currently at Step 4. (https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-response-spring-2021/covid-19-response-spring-2021).</p>

			<p>wishing to stay at home to watch and listen remotely.</p> <p>In accordance with the government Covid 19 Response-Spring 2021 (published 22 February 2021) the country is currently at Step 4. (https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-response-spring-2021/covid-19-response-spring-2021).</p> <p>For places of worship:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are no longer limits on the number of people you can meet. This means there are no restrictions on group sizes for attending communal worship. • Legal requirements for social distancing will no longer apply and you will not need to stay 2 metres apart from people you do not live with. Social distancing in a place of worship is now a personal choice. People are encouraged to respect other attendees and those working who may wish to adopt a more cautious approach. • There are no legal restrictions on the number of people that can attend a place of worship, including at significant life events. • COVID-secure rules, including restrictions on singing, will no longer apply. However, there are steps everyone should continue to consider to reduce the risk of transmission. Places of worship should follow the principles set out in the 				
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			<p>guidance, Reducing the spread of respiratory infections, including COVID-19, in the workplace <u>published 1st Apr 2022 and updated 14th Apr 2022.</u> (https://www.gov.uk/guidance/reducing-the-spread-of-respiratory-infections-including-covid-19-in-the-workplace).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There will no longer be limits on the number of people who can sing indoors or outdoors. This includes indoor congregational and communal singing. <p>As a church, to minimise the risk of transmission, the following safety precautions will remain in place.</p>				
Prior to attendance at the Church building	Spread of Covid-19 Coronavirus	Visitors & Church Members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Based on the guidance, People with symptoms of a respiratory infection including COVID-19, published on 1st Apr 2022 and updated on 27th Apr 2022, (https://www.gov.uk/guidance/people-with-symptoms-of-a-respiratory-infection-including-covid-19), we request that anyone with the following symptoms do not come to the church building, clubs or home groups, but where possible, participate online: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • new cough • high temperature, fever or chills • loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell • shortness of breath 	3	2	6	Visitors are requested to please ensure that prior to attendance you (and all children) have visited the bathroom and your hands are washed. This is to minimise unnecessary movement around the church building.

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • unexplained tiredness, lack of energy • muscle aches or pains that are not due to exercise • not wanting to eat or not feeling hungry • new headache that is unusual or longer lasting than usual • sore throat, stuffy or runny nose or new sneezing • diarrhoea, feeling sick or being sick <p>The whole family does not need to stay away, just the unwell person and obviously if this is a child, a parent as well.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • However, if parents suspect that their child does not have covid, despite having some of the above symptoms, we request that they carry out the following additional precautions before bringing them to church. Please carry out a lateral flow device test (LFD) on the child with the symptoms. If the result is negative, please bear in mind that this does not confirm that they do not have covid but simply reduces the probability that they do. If the parents still believe that it is not covid, then they may bring the child to church, while maintaining social distancing to protect other people at church. (Most people can now no longer access free LFD tests for covid 19. You can check your eligibility for free tests at the 				
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			<p>government website, (https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests?) Alternatively, they are available to purchase from pharmacies).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If someone has tested positive for Covid we recommend that they access the services online for 10 days after the day that they took the test. This is to protect any vulnerable people who may be present at the church building. • If somebody in a household has a positive Covid test then we recommend that all household members should not come to church for 10 days or possibly longer if a second person in the house tests positive, but participate online. • Individuals who were previously considered clinically extremely vulnerable should continue to follow the government's advice. (https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-on-shielding-and-protecting-extremely-vulnerable-persons-from-covid-19/guidance-on-shielding-and-protecting-extremely-vulnerable-persons-from-covid-19). (Updated on 1st Apr 2022). • Ensure you have appropriate clothing, bearing in mind that some windows will be open for the necessary ventilation of the main worship room. • The church minibus is currently NOT running. 				
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On Entry to and moving around the Building	Spread of Covid-19 Coronavirus	Visitors & Church Members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mask wearing is now no longer mandatory, however, if you want to wear a face covering that is fine. Please provide your own. They should cover the mouth and nose and fit well around the face. Masks will be available at the door for anyone who comes without one. • If someone is wearing a face mask please be considerate of their concerns and give them appropriate space, as necessary. • Door stewards are present within the foyer to welcome and help people. They will be clearly identifiable. • On entry, please sanitise/wash your hands. • Signs are up in the foyer to remind people of the need for hand washing/sanitising and vigilance. • The main door will be closed 5 minutes after the start of the service. However, the door stewards will monitor and open for any latecomers. • If you do cough or sneeze, please cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or the crook of your sleeved arm (not your hands). Please ensure that the tissue is taken away with you and disposed of hygienically at home. 	3	2	6	<p>Hand Washing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hand washing facilities with soap and water in place. • Stringent hand washing taking place. • See hand washing guidance. • https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/healthy-body/best-way-to-wash-your-hands/

<p>Main Worship Room & Coffee Lounge</p>	<p>Spread of Covid-19 Coronavirus</p>	<p>Visitors & Church Members</p>	<p>MAIN WORSHIP ROOM</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The front and side windows will be open and a fan working to ventilate and reduce the risk of transmission of the virus. This applies to all services and activities that take place in this room. When singing is taking place all three extractor fans will be in operation. • There is a sanitation point by the doors. Please sanitise your hands prior to your exit from the building. <p>COFFEE LOUNGE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • During services this area is designated for those who wish to wear a face covering and do NOT wish to sing. However, the doors to the main worship room will be opened for refreshments after the evening service and after the morning service when there is a fellowship meal. • When possible, the kitchen hatch and window will be open to ventilate and reduce the risk of transmission of the virus. • There is a sanitation point by the doors. Please sanitise your hands prior to your exit from the building. 	<p>3</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>6</p>	
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<p>Toilets</p>	<p>Spread of Covid-19 Coronavirus</p>	<p>Visitors & Church Members</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where possible, windows will be open and extractor fans switched on to increase ventilation of the toilet areas. • Used nappies are to be bagged and taken home. Adequate plastic bags are provided in the toilet. • Once you have finished please wash your hands for at least 20s using soap and water. (Sanitiser is also available if you wish to use it after washing your hands). • Please use the hand dryer/paper towels available to dry your hands. If you use a paper towel, please only touch the one that you use and throw it away in the open bin provided. 	<p>3</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>6</p>	
<p>Emergencies</p>	<p>Spread of Covid-19 Coronavirus</p>	<p>Visitors to the Church Vulnerable groups – Elderly, Pregnant women, those with existing underlying health conditions Anyone else who physically comes in contact</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If you become unwell with symptoms of Covid 19 whilst at the church building, please go home immediately and follow the guidance for People with symptoms of a respiratory infection including COVID-19, published on 1st Apr 2022 and updated on 27th Apr 2022, (https://www.gov.uk/guidance/people-with-symptoms-of-a-respiratory-infection-including-covid-19) • Other people who may have been in contact with the person who became unwell with symptoms of Covid 19 whilst in the church building should wash their hands thoroughly but they 	<p>3</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>6</p>	

		with you in relation to church business	do not need to take any other specific action unless they develop symptoms themselves.				
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Risk/Priority Indicator Key

Severity (Consequence)
1. Negligible (delay only)
2. Slight (minor injury / damage / interruption)
3. Moderate (lost time injury, illness, damage, lost business)
4. High (major injury / damage, lost time business interruption, disablement)
5. Very High (fatality / church closure)

Likelihood
1. Improbable / very unlikely
2. Unlikely
3. Even chance / may happen
4. Likely
5. Almost certain / imminent

RISK / PRIORITY INDICATOR MATRIX						
LIKELIHOOD	5	5	10	15	20	25
	4	4	8	12	16	20
	3	3	6	9	12	15
	2	2	4	6	8	10
	1	1	2	3	4	5
		1	2	3	4	5
SEVERITY (CONSEQUENCE)						

Summary		Suggested Timeframe
12-25	High	As soon as possible
6-11	Medium	Within next 3-6 months
1-5	Low	Whenever viable to do so