



Guidance for attending meetings in the church building

We are delighted to be opening the church building once again for communal meetings and we want everyone who attends to be safe and comfortable. So we have put together some simple guidelines to keep everyone safe.

Infection control

- If you are in contact with someone who has tested positive for Covid-19 do not attend church and follow Government test and trace guidance.
- If you develop symptoms of Covid-19 do not attend church and follow Government test and trace guidance.

Travel

- All persons to limit their use of public transport.
- Use face coverings on public transport.
- When using private transport travel only with members of your household or support bubble in accordance with current government guidelines on transport.

In church

- Keep 2 metres apart from other households following social distancing guidance at all times.
- Everyone must wash or clean their hands with sanitizer before entering the Hope Suite.
- Everyone will be encouraged to clean their hands with sanitizer before leaving the site.
- Only use lift with members of own household.
- A register will be kept of attendees, including phone numbers, for track and trace purposes.
- Please do not touch items belonging to other people.
- You may bring a drink if needed.
- Continue to give electronically or on line if possible.
- There will be a facility to give an offering in the meeting. If you wish to make a financial offering please put it in the container when you arrive in the Hope Suite.
- There will be access only to the Hope Suite.
- There will be no live music or congregational singing and voices should not be raised.
- There will be a short opportunity at the end of the meeting to chat to the people around where you are sitting if you wish to.
- If you are shielding please follow Government guidance on social contacts (stay at home as much as possible).
- If you are over 70 please follow Government guidance on social contacts (meeting indoors with one other family).
- Use a face covering following Government guidance.
- Children must stay with parents at all times. There will be no Hope Kids activities.
- Children can bring quiet toys and books.
- Ensure toys / books / snacks are used by one household only.

We will ensure:

- Communion will be prepared and served in line with Government guidance.
 - Individual microphones used.
 - Background music will be kept quiet enough to ensure normal conversation.
 - A container for offerings will be placed in a central location for ease of access.
 - Numbers able to attend will be restricted.
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- All contact surfaces will be cleaned including handrails, doorplates, handles and lift buttons.
 - Bins will be emptied after every meeting.
 - Ventilation will be improved by opening windows (weather permitting).
 - Access to the toilets on entry will be monitored to ensure social distancing.
 - Tissues will be provided.
 - Hand sanitiser will be provided.
 - Wipes will be provided to sanitise taps and handles in the toilets.
 - Doors will be fastened open when possible.
 - Soap in dispensers will be checked after every meeting.
 - Posters will be displayed encouraging social distancing / good hygiene / expectations.
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- Activity sheets will be provided for the children. Please bring your own pencils and something to lean on. If you are unable to provide these please let us know and we will provide a set for you to keep.

If you have any questions or require further information please get in touch with one of the leadership team. Our detailed risk assessment can be found on the church website:

<http://www.hopechurchstoke.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/HCC-covid-19-risk-assessment-church-19.7.20.pdf>