

Risk Assessment for Opening Church Buildings to the Public

Version Control

Issue Date	Version Number	Issued by
16 th July 2021	10	The House of Bishops COVID-19 Recovery Group

This update has been reviewed to reflect step 4 of the [roadmap to ease restrictions](#) issued by the UK government and is intended for use from 19th July onwards. As step 4 sees the easing of all legal restrictions it is recommended that risk assessments currently in place are re-run to ensure they fit the new circumstances. The Church of England's [guidance on step 4](#) may be a helpful reference point.

Church: St Andrew the Great	Assessor's name: Laura Murray	Date completed: 21 st July 2021	Review date: 1 st September 2021
Event or service this assessment relates to:		Sunday Services (Public Worship)	

Risk	Controls to consider (delete or detail as appropriate to your location and event)	Additional information	Action by whom?	Completed – date and name
Aerosol or droplet transmission of Covid-19	Increase ventilation in the building: through natural ventilation by opening doors, windows and vents. Additional mobile fans will be located throughout the auditorium and the church air flow system will be in use before and after the service, to aid air circulation.	Do not prop open fire doors.	Laura Murray	
	Request people wear a face covering, unless exempt, when inside the church building.			
	Visitors will be guided to an area by a member of the Welcome Team, and able to choose their own seats, spacing themselves appropriately and according to their own preference.			
	Entry into the church via the main doors, to manage flow of people, keeping emergency exits available at all times. Exit at the end of services via main doors, north east door and south east door.	As indicated by the welcome team and in notices.	Welcome Team	

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Surface transmission of Covid-19	Hand washing facilities are available within the church building, as well as hand sanitiser on arrival. Hand sanitiser provided around the church building for those wishing to re-sanitise their hands.			
	To reduce contact of people with surfaces, no-fire doors will be left open.			
	Electronic versions of service sheets will be available, as well as single use large print copies/ regular print copies, available on request.			
	Bibles will be available for individual use, by collecting on arrival and depositing in a quarantine box on exit.			
	Frequently touched surfaces will be cleaned regularly and before and after every service, using anti-viral cleaning spray.			
	Common areas such as toilet facilities will be cleaned regularly and in between church services.			
	Childrens toys will be quarantined after Sunday Services, with difficult to clean toys kept out of reach from children. Hand sanitiser will be available inside rooms available for creche and childrens groups.			
	Toilet facilities, will have an adequate supply of soap and disposable hand towels, and a bin for used towels.			
Visitors are unclear on requirements for attending church or visiting the building for other	Display a QR code enabling visitors to register their attendance for Track & Trace purposes, with an alternative option for those who cannot use that system. Encourage visitors to use the voluntary form whilst attending services.			

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purposes, or anxious about attending.	Website and other relevant social media kept up to date with current information on how to attend services. Including details on requests such as bringing a face covering and options for those who may be anxious.			
	Church will continue to be broadcast as a public livestream to YouTube for those unable to attend in person, details of which can be found on the church website. www.stag.org			
	Provide welcoming notices that outline safety measures.			
Cleaning the church after known exposure to someone with Coronavirus symptoms	If possible close the church building for 48 hours with no access permitted.			
	If 48-hour closure is not possible then follow Public Health England guidance on cleaning in non-healthcare settings.			
	If the building has been quarantined for 48 hours, then carry out cleaning as per the normal advice on cleaning.			