

RISK ASSESSMENT FORM for Attending Bishopdown Evangelical Church (BEC) Building – COVID-19 Risks

COVID-19 infection is a life-threatening disease, with potential ongoing and serious symptoms, particularly to those vulnerable through either age and/or underlying health conditions. Its mode of transmission is through contact with contaminated surfaces, direct exposure to droplets, and via an aerosol component.

BEC wishes to minimise the risk from COVID-19 infection, as far as is reasonably practicable, to any person present in the BEC building. This will be achieved by identifying the Covid-19 hazardous areas and activities, and implementing mitigations to minimise the risk. All Government legal restrictions in relation to church services were lifted in March 2022; however, whilst community infection rates remain relatively high the mitigations below will follow developed good practice for minimising the risk.

What are the hazards?	Who could get hurt and how?	Covid-19 infection control – good practice	What are we doing to mitigate the risk?	What further action is needed?	Action by Whom?	By when?	Done
<p>Infection of building attendees:</p> <p>for example, touching of contaminated surfaces, breaching social distancing guidelines, face to face conversations, inhalation of infectious aerosols.</p>	Building users could touch a contaminated surface	<p>Cleaning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clean all Surfaces • Remove or close off areas where there are soft furnishings that are hard to clean • Close off all areas that are not being used. 	<p>Cleaning</p> <p>Before and after each Church meeting, all potential touch points will be wiped down with sanitiser</p> <p>The kitchen area will be limited access area, and those preparing drinks will follow the Kitchen Risk Assessment and protocols</p>	<p>Cleaning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clear identification of surfaces to clean • Designated cleaning team • Regular review of areas to be cleaned <p>x</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management team 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As required 	
	Building users could potentially contaminate a surface	<p>Hand Sanitising</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On entering and leaving the hall everyone will have access to hand sanitiser if they wish 	<p>Hand Sanitising</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set-up hand sanitising stations at entry and exit for those who wish to use it. This will avoid queues at the toilet basins which are deemed higher risk. 	<p>Hand Sanitising</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provision of hand sanitiser 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management team 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • prior to building occupation 	
	Building users could potentially breach social distancing and infect others.	<p>Social Distancing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Those who wish to maintain social distancing should be given the opportunity and have their desire respected. 	<p>Social Distancing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An area with more spaced seating will be maintained for those who desire it. • Provide regular reminders of the need to respect 	<p>Social Distancing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A seating plan that allows some flexibility for varying household numbers and requirements. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management team 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • prior to and during building occupation 	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enable people to be seated rather than standing which reduces the risk of contact. • All attendees should know that are free to wear a face mask or covering if they wish 	those who wish to maintain some social distancing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify those who have a requirement to be seated in a particular area 			
	Building users could potentially infect each other through a build up of infectious aerosol and/or by having excessive contact time, even allowing for social distancing	Reducing inhaled aerosol and contact time <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase fresh air circulation 	Reducing inhaled aerosol and contact time <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep windows open during attendance (dependent upon temperature) 	Reducing inhaled aerosol and contact time <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure all leaders are aware of requirements • Identify a designated individual to open and close windows and doors each week 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management team 		

	Use of shared toilet facilities may result in cross-contamination and infection	Toilet facilities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure suitable handwashing facilities include running water and liquid soap and suitable options for drying hands. • Keep the facilities well ventilated, • 	Toilet facilities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide hand sanitiser as an alternative to the basin to prevent cross contamination 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management team 		
Items potentially touched by multiple users	Anyone touching an item after another attendee has touched it could potentially be cross-contaminated,	Touchable items <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bread and wine used for communion should not be handled communally. 	Touchable items <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communion bread and wine will be prepared by one person with mask and gloves or sanitised hands, and served in individual portions and cups. 	Touchable items <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Designated person to prepare communion. Bread will be separated to minimise risk of cross-contamination 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management team 		
Those vulnerable or shielding	The vulnerable, elderly and those shielding are at greater potential risk from the effects of catching Covid-19.		The vulnerable <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All vulnerable and elderly have now been offered or had full vaccination. • Provide a recorded or streamed service so that non-attendees do not feel excluded for the time when Covid risk is still significant • Make it very clear that no one is expected to attend 	The Vulnerable <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that all potential attendees are clear that they do not have to attend, and will still receive a recording of the service if they wish to while the Covid risk is significant. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management team 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As required 	

			services and if they are not happy to do so they should not.				
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Name of assessors

Nick Robinson

Signed:

electronic

Date: 18th March 2021

Gavin Walker

Signed:

electronic

Date: 18th March 2021

NB: Document v4 reviewed with minor revisions 24th August 2021, agreed by NR, GW and accepted by BEC membership. v5 minor revision to allow for change in Government legislation pertaining to church services on 10th December 2021. March 2022 v6 changed to reflect lifting of all Government legislation.