

Risk assessment for opening church building for public worship

Church: St Hubert, Idsworth

Date: 21 July 2021

Review: 1 month, or any sooner change of practice

NB: This document addresses only specific risks arising from the Covid-19 pandemic.

Risk	Action(s)	Comments
Clinically extremely vulnerable	Should be advised of the risks of attending public worship, a decision to do so is theirs alone.	
Transmission of virus from hands to surfaces.	Hand sanitiser provided at entrance, with signs directing use. Door to remain open.	All who attend worship must use sanitiser on entrance. Steward to ensure compliance.
Virus present in atmosphere.	West door open at all times during public worship to allow airflow.	High ceiling is mitigating factor.
Known exposure of building to someone with (or soon developing) Covid-19 symptoms.	Building to be completely closed to all access for 72 hours and then cleaned before re-opening to public.	Symptomatic individuals should be self-isolating and therefore not in building. Signage to ask those with symptoms not to enter.
Transmission of virus from service sheets/hymn books.	Service sheets and hymn books only used once a week.	
Sharing the peace	No physical contact or moving from seat during the sharing of the peace.	
Holy Communion - Consecration	Bread to be consumed by the congregation to be covered during the eucharistic prayer in a ciborium (or suitable vessel). Individual communion wafers only. Hands sanitised before preparing the altar. Wine will be distributed by president intinction. President to prepare altar only.	
Cleaning of communion vessels	Vessels to be cleaned and stored after use for 72 hours.	
Transmission of virus through airborne particles.	Advise facemasks to be worn during public worship, no longer compulsory.	
Singing	Door open during service. Advise adults to wear face covering (unless exempt). Advise to sit spaced around the church.	