

Restoration of Worship Post-COVID-19

V1.9 7th January 2022

Westoning Baptist Church

This policy has been developed for services of worship at Westoning Baptist Church to prevent the spread of the COVID-19 virus and regularly updated since Sunday 22nd March 2020 in accordance with government guidance.

COVID-19 Risk Assessment is attached and has been shared with the members and congregation and uploaded to the website

1. COVID-19 symptoms

1.1. Anyone who is clinically vulnerable should follow government and medical guidance regarding whether they attend services – online services are available via Zoom.

1.2. No one with symptoms of COVID-19 should attend services – a notice to this effect is on the front door.

2. Social distancing

2.1. We will continue to maintain 2m distance as much as possible between individuals and households at all services.

2.2. Pews will be sectioned off to ensure 2m distancing and pews designated for visitors

3. Hand hygiene

3.1. Hand sanitiser will be available on entrance to the chapel

4. Reduce risk of cross-infection

4.1. Windows and doors will be kept open as much as possible without impacting worship

5. Online services

5.1. Online services will continue to be provided for those who are unable to attend due to illness, frailty or shielding

6. Lord's supper

6.1. We hold the Lords Supper at the close of the service. Those who wish to leave may do so. Those staying shall remain in their seats.

6.2. The bread is served pre-broken to avoid cross-contamination

6.3. The bread and the wine glass will be distributed to members and safely gathered in afterwards for washing or disposal as appropriate.

7. Special services, Baptisms, weddings and funerals

8.1.. A specific risk assessment will be carried out as the need arises if the service will be different from usual Sunday worship arrangements.

8. Singing and music

9.1. There are no longer any restrictions on singing.

9. Sunday school

9.1. For children aged up to 18 years old.

9.2. No children should attend if they have symptoms of coronavirus

10. Other Matters

11.1. Face coverings will no worn in accordance with government guidance.

11.2 The children will remain in their seats for the children's talk.

11.3 Prayer meetings will remain socially distanced

11. COVID-19 Cases

12.1. If anyone has symptoms of COVID-19 after attending the church they should inform Martin Hare or post in the church Whatsapp group.