



Bessels Green, Sevenoaks, Kent. TN13 2PS

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Charity Registration No. 1132394

15 July 2021

Rev 1 20/7/2021

Bessels Green Baptist Church required actions following Step 4 UKGov removal of restrictions from 19 July 2021

Updated following trustees Meeting 20/7/2021

The Trustees discussed the guidance currently available from UK Gov regarding Coronavirus stage 4, the results of the "Returning to Worship 2021" survey, and available guidance from the BU.

After discussing and reviewing the available information, it was agreed that we would implement the following changes to our current provision of activities and services at BGBC.

It is acknowledged that the UKGov emphasis in Stage 4 has shifted to one of taking personal responsibility however the following measures are considered appropriate for BGBC to provide protection and assurance to those more at risk and those continuing to be anxious over the personal risks to them of the continuing pandemic.

The Covid Pandemic however is a continuing situation, and we can't anticipate how measures might need to further change in the coming weeks. Accordingly, the following proposals remain under continuing review.

From Monday the 19th we will:

1. Remove the priority booking system.
2. Return most of the chairs to their regular positions. (see item 19 below for social distanced area)
3. Remove the one-way system.
4. Return the toilets to normal usage with a signage advising max 2 persons at a time
5. Allow singing (behind face coverings – see item 10 and 11 for face coverings)
6. Restart refreshments - encouraging people outside as well as in the hall to increase space. (It is anticipated that due to rota commitments this will be limited provision until September)
7. Restart Powerhouse and Creche every week - (Commencing properly from the 5th of September, In August to continue on alternate weeks as in July)
8. Not limit the number of musicians.
9. Continue to stream every week.

10. Welcomers should continue with no physical contact with those attending
11. Expect everyone visiting BGBC to wear face coverings when in the building.
12. Those not wishing to wear face coverings to be directed to sit in the gallery area.
13. Continue with increased ventilation.
14. Continue to provide and request people to use hand sanitiser and masks



15. Continue with enhanced cleaning.
16. Continue to provide appropriate signage covering health issues, washing hands etc.
17. Ask people not to attend if they are ill or isolating and encourage lateral flow tests.
18. Encourage people to sit in small groups (family/close friends) with at least 1 chair in between groups.
19. Provide a physical break (or signage) in the middle block of chairs splitting this into two blocks of 4 and 3.
20. Provide an area with increased socially distancing for those who need it to feel more comfortable (this to be the right side block of chairs as you face the stage).
21. After the service those who are nervous and would rather not stay for refreshments are free to leave with no judgement.
22. Follow the BU guidance for communion as it changes, at the moment this means cubed bread, gloves, serving into people's hands, and not passing the elements. Care to be taken to ensure servers can reach participants to deliver the elements.
23. Use a retiring offering for financial gifts.
24. No communal bibles nor news sheets for the time being.
25. Continue to display the NHS QR Code for those wishing to use it and also provide a sign in sheet for those wishing to check in but who are not able to use the NHS app. Date Name and contact telephone no to be recorded and retained for 21 days only.
26. Employed staff ... allowed to continue to work from home according to personal wishes and circumstances.
27. No limit on kids work numbers.
28. Wed lunch back from September (reduced duration).
29. External bookings (defer decision on restarting until September)
30. Baby plus back regularly from September (sensible numbers)
31. As we start again each regular activity a risk assessment to be completed by leaders to show how they are managing the potential effects of Covid transmission etc. Continue with individual risk assessments for one off events.

Other thoughts

32. "Back to church Sunday" sometime in September?
33. Church thank you Gift day? Review in future consider what to support. Perhaps funds bringing vaccines to less well off countries.
34. We should consider some form of on-line giving so people can give via mobile/internet.
35. Home Groups ... Advice to leaders. Advise leaders of BGBC general positions reflected in above items.
36. Consider encouraging the set up of a continuing online Home Group for those wishing to use it.
37. A memorial service remembering those friends and family members who have died who due to the pandemic restrictions we have not been able to celebrate and remember as we would have wished to do.