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|---|--|-------------------------------------|
|  | Risk Assessment  | Date: 19 <sup>th</sup> July 2021    |
|   | <b>CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC</b><br><b>Re-opening church for Sunday Worship</b> | <b>RA Number</b><br><b>0001 v 3</b> |


| Description of activity / hazard  |  |                                  |                 |                 |           |
|---|--|----------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------|
| <p>Sunday Worship is the most important gathering in the church week. It sees large numbers of people meeting together in the church building to praise and worship the Lord.</p> <p>In the year 2020, the Covid 19 pandemic arrived in the UK prompting a Government lock-down. Gradually the restrictions were eased and churches were allowed to meet-up again, providing a valid Risk Assessment is in place that is in line with Government guidelines.</p> <p>Covid 19 is a respiratory viral pathogen which causes serious disease. It is thought to be transmitted via airborne droplets and through contact with contaminated surfaces. In order to protect from this disease, the Government have released a series of guidelines which this Risk Assessment will apply to Sunday Worship meetings at Great Harwood Christian Fellowship.</p> <p>On the 19<sup>th</sup> July 2021, the Government lifted their legal requirements for creating a Covid 19 safe environment and have replaced them with recommendations.</p> |  |                                  |                 |                 |           |
| What are the hazards?   | What needs to be done?   | Do you need to do anything else? | Action by whom? | Action by when? | Status    |
| <b>LEGAL</b>  |  |                                  |                 |                 |           |
| Insurance   | Notify insurance about re-opening church   |                                  |                 |                 | Completed |
| Government guidance   | Ensure compliance with latest regulations: see below   |                                  |                 |                 |           |
| Attendance records  | Weekly record of all church attenders to be kept for NHS "Track & Trace" purposes                              |                                  |                 |                 | Completed |
|   |  |                                  |                 |                 |           |
| <b>ACCESS</b>   |  |                                  |                 |                 |           |
| Social distancing   | Covid-19 spreads through close human contact; 1m+ social distancing will be maintained throughout the building |                                  |                 |                 | Completed |

|              |               |             |               |             |
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| Face coverings                         | Face masks will be required for all those entering the building apart from those exempt for health reasons.   |  |    |            | Completed                |
| Entrance corridor is less than 2m wide | Stewards will ensure that safe distancing is maintained in the corridor   |  |    |            | Stewarding rota in place |
| Hand sanitation                        | The virus is often present on people's hands. All visitors will be required to either wash hands or use hand sanitiser when entering the building             |  |    |            | Completed                |
| NHS Track and Trace                    | Our QR code is displayed on the sanitising station for people to sign in. A written record of all those attending is made.                                    |  |    |            | Completed                |
| Ventilation                            | Windows and doors will remain open to allow air circulation.  |  |    |            | Completed                |
| Seating                                | The virus is known to adhere to all surfaces, including seats. Seats will be laid out in a 1m+ socially distanced pattern based upon who we know will attend. |  |    |            | Completed                |
| Seating                                | Individuals will be seated in household groups or pre-arranged "bubbles" that have been established following government guidelines                           |  |    |            | Completed                |
| Seating                                | Seats will not be used again for 72 hours after each meeting.   |  |    |            | Completed                |
| Toilets                                | Basement and disabled toilet will be open for use   | To be cleaned after each use. Additional cleaning kit required for Disabled toilet | SC | 5 Jul 2020 | Completed                |

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| Families                          | All children must remain seated with their parents/carers   |  |  |  | Completed |
|                                   |   |  |  |  |           |
| <b>WORSHIP AREA &amp; SERVICE</b> |   |  |  |  |           |
| Coats                             | Points where people congregate and carry a high risk – People will need to keep their coats with them   |  |  |  | Completed |
| Bibles, books & leaflets          | Shared books are a potential source of infection  |  |  |  | Completed |
|                                   |   |  |  |  |           |
| Donations box                     | Money is a potential source of infection – Electronic financial contributions should be encouraged. Any cash donated must be left in the box for 72 hours before emptying |  |  |  | Completed |
| Service leader                    | The virus is spread through speaking – Service and sermon must be kept at a conversation level; use of electronic amplification is needed                                 |  |  |  | Completed |
| Bible reader/prayer               | Separate microphones will be used for different people  | Microphones must be cleaned after use or left for 72 hours |  |  | Completed |
| Sermon                            | The podium will be placed at the back of the stage to maximise the distance between the speaker and the front row   |  |  |  | Completed |
| Singing                           | Quiet singing behind face masks, while remaining seated will be permitted.  |  |  |  | Completed |

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|----------------------------|--|--|----|--|----------------------------|
| Sunday School/Youth Group  | See RA 005 for Sunday School.  |  |    |  | Completed                  |
| Refreshments               | Drinks will be served after the meeting using the outside space when weather permits. When the weather prevents this, drinks will be served inside.                      |  |    |  | Completed                  |
| Breaking of Bread          | See RA 003 for Breaking of Bread services  |  | MC |  | Completed                  |
| <b>Closing the service</b> |  |  |    |  |                            |
| Leaving the building       | Maintaining social distancing upon entrance, during and after the service is critical – People will be invited to maintain social distancing as they leave the building. |  |    |  | Procedure in place         |
| Cleaning                   | Once the building is clear, all door handles and toilets should be cleaned. Chairs should either be cleaned or left untouched for 72 hours.                              |  |    |  | Completed<br><br>Completed |