

Kings Norton Baptist Church, Wharf Road



Instructions for attenders

Dear member / friend, we are glad you can attend with us on Sunday morning. When we meet we are adopting the guidelines put forward by the Government and the Baptist Union. Firstly:

- Anyone showing symptoms of COVID-19 (a new continuous cough, a high temperature or a loss of, or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell) should not attend the place of worship due to the risk that they pose to others; they should self-isolate at home immediately with other members of their household.

As you attend there a number of things for you to consider as we seek to maintain a Covid safe environment. The basic principle is in normal circumstances to aim for 2m between people outside your family group. This can reduce down to 1m where there are other mitigating factors that make it safer, such as people facing the other way.

- As you approach the door if there are others there then keep a distance standing by the cones.
- On entering please avoid contact with door handles as much as possible, (the front door should be already open weather permitting). As you enter you will be welcomed and your name taken as a record of your attendance for track and trace purposes (kept for 21 days) See the Privacy policy on the Bulletin. Please wash your hands with the hand sanitizer.
- Ahead of you on the door is a seating plan. As much as possible please adhere to this so as to make the best use of our limited space. There will be someone around to help if needed.
- Seats have been allocated with 1m in front and 1.5 m on the side (two chairs)
- It is a requirement (from 8th August) to wear a face mask in a place of worship. Spare masks are available by the door. A 'shield' does not constitute a face covering which has to be over/cover the nose and mouth. The purpose of this is not for oneself but to save others.
- Avoid coming close when we bring greetings one to another so no handshakes, kissing or hugging. So do not gather in groups apart from your own household, otherwise it is 2m.
- Bibles will be placed in the seat in front for you to use, please leave them in place after use. Please don't share with anyone outside of your family group. Do of course bring your own if you prefer.
- Wash hands with the hand Sanitizer which are placed at six points around the building including the loos. Wash your hands more often than usual, and for 20 seconds using soap and water or hand sanitizer. Do so after coughing, sneezing and blowing your nose. The government says: 'when you cough or sneeze, cover your mouth and nose with a tissue, or the crook of your sleeved arm (not your hands) if you don't have a tissue, and throw the tissue away hygienically immediately afterwards and then wash your hands thoroughly.'
- The advice is that 'services should be concluded in the shortest reasonable time', which means it is better we don't have refreshments or continue to linger.
- Good planning will mean you, were possible, visit the toilet prior to arriving and/or when you return home. If you do use the toilets please wipe the seat before, and after, would be best.
- Please keep any children you bring close with you and restrain them from running around and coming close to others. Only one family group in the vestry.
- If you show symptoms please leave immediately and inform Francis by text (07951866124)

When you do not need to wear a face covering

As mentioned in the above face coverings are necessary in places of worship from 8th August 2020.

In settings where face coverings are required in England, there are some circumstances where people may not be able to wear a face covering. Please be mindful and respectful of such circumstances, noting that some people are less able to wear face coverings, and that the reasons for this may not be visible to others.

This includes (but is not limited to):

- children under the age of 11 (Public Health England do not recommended face coverings for children under the age of 3 for health and safety reasons)
- people who cannot put on, wear or remove a face covering because of a physical or mental illness or impairment, or disability
- *employees of indoor settings (or people acting on their behalf, such as someone leading part of a prayer service) or transport workers (see section 6) - although employers may consider their use where appropriate and where other mitigations are not in place, in line with COVID-19 Secure guidelines
- police officers and other emergency workers, given that this may interfere with their ability to serve the public
- where putting on, wearing or removing a face covering will cause you severe distress
- if you are speaking to or providing assistance to someone who relies on lip reading, clear sound or facial expressions to communicate
- to avoid harm or injury, or the risk of harm or injury, to yourself or others - including if it would negatively impact on your ability to exercise or participate in a strenuous activity

There are also scenarios when you are permitted to remove a face covering:

- if asked to do so in a bank, building society, or post office for identification
- if asked to do so by shop staff or relevant employees for identification, for assessing health recommendations (e.g. by a pharmacist), or for age identification purposes including when buying age restricted products such as alcohol
- if required in order to receive treatment or services, for example when getting a haircut
- in order to take medication
- if you are delivering a sermon or prayer in a place of worship
- if you are the persons getting married in a relevant place
- if you are undertaking exercise or an activity and it would negatively impact your ability to do so

*The principles that apply to shop staff carry over to those in similar role in a church that is those with responsibility i.e. the trustees. This in practice means that 'staff' (as in shop staff) that is those who officiate in proceedings do not need to wear face coverings, nor those who volunteer. So someone involved in a service by contributing a Bible reading or prayer does not need to wear a face covering.