



The King's Church, Prestwood

Policy Documents

**CORONAVIRUS
(COVID-19) POLICY**

Coronavirus Policy 6th March 2020

Date of next review 25th April 2021

CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) POLICY

The Government has published a coronavirus action plan. The threat posed by COVID-19 has been assessed by the Chief Medical Officer as 'moderate'. This permits the Government to plan for all eventualities. **The risk to individuals remains low.**

With this in mind, King's Church, Prestwood is committed to regularly reviewing this policy and communicating any updates to church members as needed. All guidance will continue to reflect appropriate Public Health England advice.

Current Government advice is that individuals should follow good hygiene practices including:

- carrying tissues and using them to catch coughs and sneezes, and binning the tissue;
- washing hands with soap and water (for 20 seconds) or using sanitiser gel to kill germs when water is not available.

Advice has also been issued to travellers who have returned to the UK from a number of countries.

Anyone who has returned to the UK from any of these areas in the last 14 days and develops symptoms of cough or fever or shortness of breath, should immediately:

- stay indoors and avoid contact with other people as you would with the flu;
- call NHS 111 to inform them of your recent travel to the country.

Long-standing government advice has been that 'In a pandemic, it makes good sense to take precautions to limit the spread of disease by not sharing common vessels for food and drink.' COVID-19 has **NOT** been declared a pandemic.

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-information-for-the-public#advice-for-travellers>

SUNDAYS

- If feeling unwell, please stay at home, do not attend church to avoid infecting others.

- If you have health issues that could be exacerbated by contracting a respiratory disease, please consider staying at home.

Our Sunday meetings will be affected in several ways.

The hall will be cleaned prior to the meeting, with particular attention to door handles, tables, chairs and toilets.

We advise everyone to wash their hands on arrival at the hall. Hand cleaning facilities will be provided close to the entrance.

Refreshments volunteers are advised to wash their hands regularly and before handling food or cups that will be passed to church members.

Furthermore, it is advised that people consider reducing physical contact (hugging, handshakes etc) outside of their family groups.

Communion

Communion has been identified as a risk area for spreading infection. Disposable individual communion cups for 'wine' will be continued. The bread will be pre-prepared to minimise hand contact.

As communion is being set up before the service, the bread and 'wine' will remain covered. The set-up team must thoroughly wash hands before handling communion.

The contribution microphone will be cleansed before the service and held by the worship leader for contributors.

Kids Work

Kids groups leaders should be sure to follow the best hygiene practises:

- Washing hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- Washing hands as soon as you arrive at church and when you get home.
- Avoiding touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Covering your mouth with a tissue if you cough or sneeze, then throw the tissue in a bin.
- Cleaning and disinfecting frequently touched objects and surfaces
- Encouraging kids to thoroughly wash their hands when going to the toilet.

EVENTS

All precautions taken on Sundays should be replicated for any events held outside of KCP's Sunday meetings.

COMMUNICATION

All information about the new precautions on Sundays should be communicated to members of KCP via email, including any developments as they arise.

This information communicated should include:

- The measures we are putting in place as a church
- Directions to the PHE guidance for those that have travelled/ are travelling overseas
- Instruction to let us know if either themselves or a friend/family member has received a positive test for the virus and, if they do have symptoms, to not attend church.

[https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19- information-for-the-public](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-information-for-the-public)