

APPENDIX 1 - MEETING SAFELY IN CHURCH BUILDING WITH STUDENTS DURING COVID-19

PUBLIC MEETINGS

We are encouraged that government guidance now means students can meet for services (gatherings). We think this can work well for student specific services - Welcome services, bible study and prayer, training and vision casting. These may well be less frequent than the small group where the community gets built and deeper integration happens. These services could be an in-person and livestream hybrid to meet a diversity of needs. We will all need to work together to maintain our unity in Christ and bear with one another in love at this time (Ephesians 4:1–6, Galatians 6:2) as we look to meet in buildings and online.

A church building needs to be a 'COVID secure environment' in line with government regulations. As a result, there are several aspects of services which will need to be put in place and be different from how things used to be. They must follow the government regulations (Romans 13:1–7, 1 Peter 2:13–17) with a priority on keeping one another safe. Do be aware and recognise that people's consciences may allow for different approaches so be kind and grace filled towards one another in thought, word and deed.

An example criteria for meeting might include:

BEFORE THE SERVICE

Pre-registering to attend a service by filling in an online form. Entry to the church building being dependant upon registering and displaying confirmation email on arrival. This is a government recommendation but also helps ensure everyone attending is to the best of their knowledge fit and able to attend.

Bringing your own Bible, notebook and pen.

ARRIVAL

Arriving 15–20 minutes before the service and queue in church grounds, observing social distancing. Make sure a queuing system will be in place. Wear your face mask.

Entry will be through the normal doors and on entry please use hand sanitiser (please bring your own if at all possible). A one way system will be in place.



Take your seats promptly as directed by the stewards and once seated please do not move around the building. Chairs are set out in rows of four. Please sit as a household or two individuals per row at opposite ends.

Do everything possible to arrive on time.

DURING THE SERVICE

Unfortunately, there will be limited toilet provision and as such, they should be reserved for essential use only. Toilets will be available in Church before and after the service.

No singing is currently allowed so during songs please quietly reflect on the words being sung on screen.

AFTER THE SERVICE

Please exit the building promptly at the end of the service using the doors indicated by the service leader and stewards. These will be different from the entry doors due to the one way system.

Please exit one row at a time and when you leave please move clear of the building. Once you leave the building please continue to follow government social distancing advice.