



## All Saints Junior Church Risk Assessment

### **Introduction**

All Saints will be restarting Junior church on Sunday 13 September 2020. We are working to understand what a safe return to face-to-face mission and ministry with our young children will look like. Whilst in the main worship, children sit with their households, it is now permitted to have children ministry sessions.

To reduce the risk of transmission it is currently recommended that only children over the age of five shall attend Junior Church, and be kept in small groups of no more than 15 children, plus additional leaders.

### **Guidance**

The key reference point for guidance is the Government Guidance for places of Worship, Church of England website and the National Youth Agency's (NYA) website.

Links: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-for-the-safe-use-of-places-of-worship-during-the-pandemic-from-4-july/covid-19-guidance-for-the-safe-use-of-places-of-worship-during-the-pandemic-from-4-july>

<https://nya.org.uk/reacting-to-covid-19-advice-to-youth-services/>

Key points are:

- Volunteers, children and young people comply with social distancing and face covering requirements;
- Hygiene levels are maintained, particularly in the areas of hand washing, use of toilet facilities and surface and equipment cleaning;
- Any risk to volunteers, young people and the wider community is safely managed;
- Vulnerable young people and adults can be effectively safeguarded;
- Volunteers, parents, children and young people all clearly understand what adjustments need to be made to ensure everyone's safety, and have had a chance to be kept informed.

### **Social Distancing**

All leaders and children will keep 2 metres apart at all times. Leaders will wear face masks at all times. The session leader will wear a face screen during the session. Any children aged 11 and over, will wear a mask at all times. The seating arrangements for the session will be placed 2 metres apart, whether this is sitting on a chair or on the floor. Children from the same household may sit together. If any activities are done, then the chairs will be placed 2 metres apart around several tables.

## **Access**

The Junior church session will be held in the crypt. Access to the crypt is downstairs from the main welcome hall of the church. The double doors to the crypt hall will remain open. No surfaces or doors need to be touched.

## **Equipment**

Each child will have their own A4 plastic envelope to keep their own activities, pens, pencil, glue stick etc in. Each will be labelled with their name. Junior church will have a box, to include any props for storytelling, bibles, class register, bacteria wipes, tissues, hand gel, spare masks etc. After each session all items, including the children's envelopes will be placed in the box and put aside for next week's session, ensuring restricted contamination. All the leaders will have masks and face screens to wear. Gloves and cleaning spray will be provided for the leaders to clean after the session.

## **Hygiene**

Upon attending the Junior church session all leaders and children will sanitise their hands (there is a hand sanitiser at the bottom of the stairs). Any equipment used during the session that is not going in the box, such as tables and chairs will be cleaned after the session. Any additional surfaces that have been touched will be cleaned. The toilet that will be used if needed during the session will be the toilet in the kitchen area. The kitchen door and toilet door will remain open during the session. (the toilet is secluded, so no persons can be seen). The toilet will be cleaned after every use by a leader. If anybody coughs or sneezes during the session, the tissue will be binned and the person will sanitise their hands and any surfaces which may have been affected.

## **Track & Trace**

Each family and congregation member's details are recorded on entry to church at the beginning of the service and the Junior leader will keep a register as normal for the session.

## **Responsibilities**

It is the responsibility of all members of All Saints to adhere to the government guidelines on Covid-19. We ask that if child is feeling unwell that they do not attend church. If any child is tests positive for Covid-19 and they have attended Junior church, All Saints will be informed. It is important to remember that people without symptoms can be carrying Covid-19, hence the importance of all the above precautions.

Moira Roberts  
SPA and Junior Church Leader  
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