

Alderman's Green Free Methodist Church

Guidelines for Reopening of Church Premises During the COVID-19 Pandemic

The government has issued '[guidance for the safe use of places of worship during the pandemic](#)' on the GOV.UK website. Considering this, the church leaders have met and planned for the reopening of church premises and issue the following advice based on government guidance:

- The church will reopen on Sunday 25th October 2020 for Morning Services only – the time of the services will be 12 noon.
- Please do not attend if you feel unwell or have had symptoms of COVID-19 in the past 14 days or are self-isolating.
- The Government strongly advises not to attend if you are 'clinically extremely vulnerable from COVID-19' – See GOV.UK [Guidance on shielding and protecting people who are clinically extremely vulnerable from COVID-19](#).
- Individuals aged 70 and over are advised to stay at home as much as possible and, if they do go out, to take particular care to minimise contact with others outside of their household.
- You are also advised to use safe forms of transport or routes and to avoid crowded areas when in transit to the venue – See GOV.UK [safer travel guidance for passengers](#).
- Cars should not be parked in the church courtyard.
- As the seating capacity of the church building has been greatly reduced due to the introduction of social distancing measures, you will be required to register your attendance in advance. If you arrive at church and have not registered, you may have to remain outside if no seat becomes available. Attendance is to be confirmed by text message, telephone call or email at least 24 hours before each service. Contact details are as follows:
 - David Bracken Text or Call: 07900 615063
 - Dave Lee Call: 024 7636 3672
 - Email: office.agfmc@gmail.com
- There may be a need to queue outside before the service – please prepare for this.
- Please bring your own face covering and wear it throughout the service, as face coverings have been required by law in places of worship from 8th August 2020.
- Names and contact details will be recorded on entry for 'Track and Trace' purposes – this is optional and is not a condition of attending. Information will be kept for 21 days only.
- A QR Code will be displayed for those using the NHS COVID-19 contact tracing app.
- You will be required to use the installed hand sanitiser stations when entering and leaving the premises. It is also advisable to bring your own hand sanitiser.
- Social distancing of 2 metres will be adhered to whenever possible.
- A one-way system will be in operation, with a separate entrance and exit.
- Seats will be filled in a pre-determined order and you will be instructed where to sit, which may not be where you would normally sit. Groups of up to 6 from the same household will be able to sit together without being socially distanced.
- As doors will be open during the service, outdoor clothing may be needed indoors if cold.
- Children are to be supervised by parent or guardian at all times.
- No singing will be allowed indoors.
- Loud music is prohibited to avoid people raising their voices.
- Hymnbooks and other 'communal resources' have been removed to prevent multi-handling.
- The use of the toilets is to be kept to a minimum – please avoid using the toilets if possible.
- Please leave promptly at the close of the service.