

Return to Church Guidelines

Binscombe Church, Spring/Summer 2021

We are looking forward to people being able to attend services in person, but recognise that this will not be like a normal service, as we must comply with the Government COVID-19 requirements. Despite the unusual circumstances which are designed to protect everyone present, we trust you will be encouraged and blessed through attending a service.

In order to help keep everyone safe, within the limitations of the current situation, I understand that we all need to commit to the following:

1. If an individual, or anyone in their household, is exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms or is self-isolating, they should not attend.
2. Those in a vulnerable category (including those over 70 yrs) understand that the Government encourages them to stay at home as much as possible, and that coming to church is entirely at their discretion. We recommend asking family members for advice.
3. All attendees will follow social distancing guidelines i.e. remaining 2m distant from everyone present other than those from their own household/household bubble, and they will follow signs and directions from the stewards/service leader at all times.
4. Everyone will use hand sanitiser on arrival and departure. This will be provided. Adults and children of 11 years or over are required to wear face masks (unless there is a good reason not to). Those in Junior Church are not required to wear masks; those involved in leading the service are not required to wear masks when they are speaking from the front.
5. All attendees will be asked to register when they arrive at a service. Binscombe Church will be keeping temporary records of those attending services, to assist with the Government's 'Test and Trace' system. Records will be destroyed 21 days after the service.
6. Singing during services will only be possible if this falls within the current government guidelines. For both indoor and outdoor services, the service leader will advise the congregation what is allowed.
7. Before and after services mingling/chatting on the church premises, including the car park, will only be allowed according to current government guidelines. Attendees will be advised what is possible by the service leader, and this will be overseen by the stewards.
8. Unless in Junior Church, children will be under the immediate supervision of their parents at all times. If Junior Church is running, then children will be dropped off and picked up from their groups (Adventurers and Explorers/Scramblers). There is no supervised crèche, but there will be individual areas for crèche-aged children at the back of the main hall.
9. If needed, attendees will provide their own water and any other refreshments in their own containers, which they are asked to take home at the end of the service. Any other possessions brought to the premises, including rubbish (eg. nappies) should also be taken home once the service is finished.
10. If any attendee, or any member of their household, develops COVID-19 symptoms within 14 days of attending a service, they will inform the church straightaway (info@binscombechurch.org)

Please note that due to limited space, places for church family will be allocated in advance. There will be space for visitors each Sunday.