

Supplementary Risk Assessment for Rivington Chapel, Rivington, Lancashire

This supplement is to cover the additional requirements due to the COVID-19 pandemic whilst the Chapel is open for Sunday services and other religious purposes including rites of passage. This covers the situation following the introduction of step four of the Government's roadmap which commenced on Monday 19 July 2021.

Produced by: Peter Bearon (secretary and acting treasurer to the chapel trustees)

Approved by: on behalf of the Rivington Chapel Trustees

Date of approval: 25/07/2021 [Peter Bearon]

Approved by: on behalf of the Rivington Chapel Congregational Committee

Date of approval: 25/07/2021 [Alison Whitaker]

This is based on Government Guidance for Places of Worship issued 16 July 2021, the latest available at the time of creating this risk assessment.

This risk assessment also covers the use of the Chapel for small meetings and rites of passage

Date of next assessment: when COVID-19 guidance changes.

List of significant hazards in the Chapel and Grounds	List the people who are at risk from the hazard (including the disabled, the elderly or young children)	Evaluate the risk (High/Medium/Low) Decide what is being done / can be done to reduce or remove the risk.
Inside the Chapel whilst open for Services		
Risk of transmission of COVID-19 by it being present on surfaces within the Chapel	All	<p>Low Risk:</p> <p>Hand sanitiser will be available on entry and exit from the Chapel.</p> <p>If the Chapel has been used within 48 hours of the service, then all surfaces in public areas should be wiped down including the organ keyboard.</p> <p>Hymnbooks and soft furnishings etc. may be used provided that they are left in place and not touched by another person for at least 48 hours. Where this is not possible, they should be removed. In this instance, any service materials provided must be removed by the person using them and disposed of appropriately.</p>
Risk of transmission of COVID-19 from individuals who are suffering from, or carrying the virus	All	<p>Medium Risk:</p> <p>The emphasis is now on personal responsibility rather than legislation or Government guidance.</p> <p>People attending services and ceremonies should be encouraged to consider the welfare of others, and not just their own.</p> <p>The following are recommendations which will help reduce the transmission of the virus if everyone follows them:</p>

List of significant hazards in the Chapel and Grounds	List the people who are at risk from the hazard (including the disabled, the elderly or young children)	Evaluate the risk (High/Medium/Low) Decide what is being done / can be done to reduce or remove the risk.
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wear a face overing when moving around the building as this is the time you are most likely to come into close contact with others • Wear a face covering if you are within 2 metres of anyone not in your household • Do not share a pew with anyone not in your household without first checking that the other person/household are happy for you to do so • When singing hymns, or doing a reading, try and face away from anyone not in your household • The worship leader should also try and maintain an appropriate distance from the congregation • People should be encouraged to not stand in the doorways or in the aisles between the pews for any longer than necessary to enter/leave the building. <p>It is difficult to ventilate the Chapel when the main doors are closed, so following these recommendations should reduce the likelihood of transmission.</p> <p>Before the start of each service the congregation should be reminded of the COVID-19 measures in place – this can be done by placing ‘handouts’ in each pew.</p>

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		<p>To ensure as much ventilation as possible, it would be best if both Chapel doors were opened before and after the services (although this may not be possible when the weather turns colder)</p> <p>Ideally, a record should be taken of all visitors to the Chapel which should be kept for 21 days for COVID-19 Track & Trace purposes. Forms can be placed in the pews for this and a QR code should be made available for anyone who wishes to use the NHS Track & Trace app. [see note 1]</p> <p>If a collection is taken, cash should be collected in a receptacle that is set in one place and handled by one individual, as opposed to being passed around. Regular cleaning and hygiene should be maintained, and gloves worn to handle cash offerings where giving continues.</p>
Outside the Chapel whilst open for Services		
Risk of transmission of COVID-19 from individuals who are suffering from, or carrying the virus	All	<p>Low:</p> <p>If the Tea Room has a one-way system in place, then this should be observed by those attending the Chapel for services.</p>

Notes to the Supplementary Risk Assessment:

1. As most people at the services will be regular attenders, it will only be necessary to make a note of who is present. This can be done by the treasurer or other member of the committee. For any visitors, a QR Code has been generated for the Chapel, and this should be made available for people to 'check in' using the NHS Test & Trace App. Alternatively, the government have provided a template to collect the details from visitors to services and this should be used if necessary. Any data collected must be destroyed after 21 days to comply with GDPR. This is a recommendation and not a legal requirement