

Deal Pentecostal Church

Recommencing Church Services Policy

30/06/2020

We take the Government's Covid secure guidance seriously and have undertaken a risk assessment.

We consider the risk of spreading any infection as low but manageable due to the following guidelines:

Hand washing: We expect everyone to use the provided hand sanitizer when entering the building. Paper towel dispensers are installed in the toilets.

Contact: We expect people to keep the recommended distance from each other when they are in the Church building. Any contact closer than the recommended distance, should be less than 15 minutes.

Seating: A space of 2 metres will be left between each row of chairs. We expect people who are not in the same household or household bubble to leave a space of at least 2 seats between them and the next person.

Bibles: We encourage everyone to bring a Bible to Church for their own use.

Church Offerings and gifts: Church offerings and gifts can be deposited in the Offering receptacle upon arrival at the Church.

Communion: Put on hold until further guidance.

Refreshments and meals: Put on hold until further guidance.

Cleaning: Surfaces likely to have been touched by people will be cleaned after each Service. Antibacterial wipes/spray will be provided to clean surfaces in the toilet facilities.

A letter detailing our Covid-19 guidelines will be sent to all congregants before recommencing our Church Services on July 5th—see below:

Deal Pentecostal Church

Letter

It is with great joy that I can announce we will recommence our Church Services this Sunday (5th July).

If you have symptoms of Covid-19 or are quarantined, you **must not** attend the Church Services until you have completed your isolation period and if you are shielding you should not attend Church Services until the shielding restrictions are lifted. However, we will be videoing our services and they will be available to view on our Church website.

Our Services will be different because we will adhere to the Government's Covid-19 guidelines. Our worship will be expressed in sharing of testimonies, giving thank offerings and appreciating hymns *via* video—no touching microphones though! Church offerings and gifts can be deposited in the Offering receptacle upon arrival at the Church. Communion, refreshments and shared meals are suspended until further notice. Sunday School and shared facilities for children, including toys, books, paper and crayons will **not** be available during this interim period.

To comply with the recommended 48 hour quarantine for books, etc., we will hold our Bible Study at the Church on Wednesday mornings from 10.00am–11.00pm. We will also hold a Bible Study by Zoom on Wednesday evenings from 8.00pm–8.40pm.

Please note, we are required to keep a record for 21 days of all those who attend each Service in case there is a local outbreak of Covid-19.

We have undertaken a risk assessment and ask for your cooperation in following these guidelines:

Please

- ✓ Use the provided hand sanitizer when entering and exiting the building.
- ✓ Maintain the recommended distance between yourself and others.
- ✓ Sit together in households or household bubbles and leave a space of at least 2 chairs between households.
- ✓ Bring your own Bible to Church (we will also project the Bible readings onto the Screen).
- ✓ Use the provided antibacterial wipes/sprays to clean any surface you touch in the toilet facilities.

PTO

Face coverings will not be provided as evidence currently suggests that wearing a face covering does not protect you. However, if you are infected but have not yet developed symptoms, it may provide some protection for those you come into close contact with.

Fellowship is integral to our faith and so we would encourage people to meet together in small groups within the Government guidelines—but please ensure that you leave the Church building promptly after the Service to avoid any “*pinch-points*” that might increase the likelihood of an infection. To help avoid queuing, both doors to the Church will be open.

The Church's Policy for Recommencing our Services is available upon request and is on our Church Noticeboard and Website.

The Government's advice on Covid-19 is constantly being updated and we will update our guidance accordingly

Deal Pentecostal Church 69 Mill Hill, Deal, Kent. CT14 9EW – www.dealpentecostal.co.uk

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Registered Charity N^o 1054371

Form: DPC-033-Recommencing Church Services

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Please ask if you have any questions.

Policy Agreed
July 2020

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