

## Appendix 2 - Covid-19 Risk Assessment

### RCCG (KKT) Church Building COVID-19 Risk Assessment (V1.10)

This risk assessment must be completed for church building reopen / to remains open within the Government guidelines. This risk assessment will help congregations identify appropriate control measures that must be in place to protect members of the congregation, volunteers and visitors from the risk of Covid-19 infection. The control measures in this risk assessment reflect current best practice and should be regarded as the minimum standard for the church buildings and congregation within the relevant government tier for local restrictions.

The current Government guidance states a move to Plan B in response to the risk of Omicron variant. Face coverings are required by law in places of worship. Information in appendix 2.1 summarises how National regulations impact activities in the place of worship. APPENDIX 2.2 is culled from the government COVID 19 guidance to places of worship titled GUIDANCE COVID 19 RESPONSE: AUTUMN AND WINTER PLAN 2021 (Updated 9 November 2021).

We all must keep vigilant as more people become opportune to worship. We shall continue to maintain the locked door and bell system at the Church's main entrance.

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| Parish  | THE REDEEMED CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF GOD KING OF KINGS TABERNACLE (KKT)      |
| Pastor / Chairman Board of Trustees                 | PASTOR SK ROTIMI / MR WALE FASOGBON                                      |
| Which building does this risk assessment relate to? | RCCG KKT<br>2 – 4 WHALEBONE LANE SOUTH, DAGENHAM, RM8 1BJ                |
| Name of assessor(s)                                 | FADEKE ROTIMI & OLAMIDE FAJIMOLU   |
| Date  | 5 January 2022   |
| Date of review                                      | Following the next Government review/ as required; which ever is earlier |
| Signature   |  |
|   |  |

| <b>Hazards Associated with The Coronavirus Pandemic</b>                 | <b>Potential risks to members of the congregation, volunteers &amp; visitors caused by the hazards.</b>  | <b>Control Measures</b>  | <b>Further Action Required</b> |
|---|--|--|--------------------------------|
| <p><b>1. Infection: Aerosol or droplet transmission of COVID 19</b></p> | <p>Threat of person who enters the church building due to its public nature that they may be exposed to Covid-19.</p> <p>People can catch the virus from others who are infected in the following ways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Virus moves from person-to-person in droplets from the nose or mouth spread when a person with the virus coughs or exhales</li> <li>• The virus can survive for 72 hours or longer on surfaces which people have touched or coughed on, etc.</li> <li>• People can pick up the virus by breathing in the droplets or by touching contaminated surfaces and then touching their eyes or mouth</li> </ul> <p>Some people are asymptomatic (They do not show symptoms of Covid-19). Therefore, it is vitally important that reasonable precautions are in place and followed at all times.</p> | <p>The church will provide training on COVID19 infection, prevention and control for all workers and volunteers. In addition, it will comply with its statutory duty to provide a safe environment, with reference to the Covid-19 pandemic by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensuring that all members, volunteers and visitors are aware of the infection prevention and control precautions that are in place within your buildings and the behaviour expected of them during the pandemic to keep themselves and others safe.</li> <li>• Require all members, volunteers and visitors to practice physical distancing when within the building and surrounding areas.</li> </ul> <p>The Church will communicate and reinforce key Government public health messages and those from the RCCG Central Office to all members, volunteers and visitors who visit our buildings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reinforcing that anyone who is unwell or who shows symptoms of Covid-19 (High temperature / fever, cough or loss of smell), who is in the extremely vulnerable group, who is shielding, who is isolating, or who is living with someone who is isolating or is unwell must not attend church.</li> <li>• An appropriate use of face covering required when inside the building (covering the nose and mouth). Signage to this effect on display. Face masks must be used in addition to face shields / visors. Any adult who cannot cope with wearing a facemask throughout the period of service will need to join the services online. Those who cannot adhere to wearing of face masks for</li> </ul> |                                |

| Hazards Associated With The Coronavirus Pandemic | Potential risks to members of the congregation, volunteers & visitors caused by the hazards | Control Measures   | Further Actions Required   |
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|  |   | <p>whatsoever reasons or those who due to vulnerability of sorts, those exempted, those isolating or shielding should join virtually.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increasing ventilation in the building: natural ventilation by opening windows, exit door (in between services on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor) / mechanical ventilation (1<sup>st</sup> floor)</li> </ul> <p>Ushers to enforce face mask usage within the auditoriums.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recommending that used tissues is binned straight away. (More bins have been provided within the building). Hands are to be sanitised before and after touching surfaces as well as regularly washed with soap and water for at least 20 seconds (use alcohol-base hand sanitiser gel if soap and water are not available).</li> <li>Not touching face, eyes, nose or mouth if hands are not clean.</li> <li>Avoiding close contact with people who becomes unwell when within the building.</li> <li>Cleaning and disinfecting frequently touched objects and surfaces.</li> </ul> <p>The congregation will fully implement in all areas of our church building, Health and Safety Executive (HSE) advice and guideline relevant to the Covid-19 Pandemic, including the following safety precautions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Following Government health and travel advice.</li> <li>Providing alcohol-based hand sanitiser or gel as required.</li> <li>Providing infection control and personal protection equipment (PPE) such as gloves, shields and masks as required.</li> <li>Increasing environmental cleaning in the church building including hand-touch areas; and ensure cleaning staff and</li> </ul> | <p><b>MOC Ushering</b></p> |

| Hazards Associated with The Coronavirus Pandemic | Potential risks to members of the congregation, volunteers & visitors caused by the hazards   | Control Measures  | Further Actions Required                           |
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| <b>2. Physical distancing</b>                    | <p>Physical distancing, wherever possible to allow and respect the individuals personal space. Physical distancing effectively puts people at a safe range from anyone coughing. The main route of virus transmission is through droplets exhaled or coughed by an infected person.</p> | <p>volunteers have access to suitable detergents, disinfectants and PPE.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Providing additional waste removal facilities and more frequent rubbish collection if required (Phoenix Washrooms and Biffa)</li> <li>• A systematic method of seating when persons come in for private prayers at advertised times when or appointed times.</li> <li>• Displaying appropriate public health posters and notices around the building and on websites informing members, volunteers and visitors of the control measure that are in place and their own role and responsibility to follow them.</li> </ul> <p>Following the Government track and trace COVID 19 measures. The church has a QR code at the entrance for checking into the building. The usual COVID 19 attendance register will continue to be in use for those who ask to check - in but do not have access to a smartphone or prefer not to use the app or cannot use the QR code. QR code displayed from 25/09/2020</p> <p>All members, volunteers and visitors are required to practice effective physical distancing while in and around the building by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Avoiding non-essential contact with others</li> <li>• Keeping a safe personal distance from others.</li> <li>• Avoiding physical contact (e.g. hugs, handshakes, etc)</li> </ul> <p>Adaptations to the building to support physical distancing will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A review of the church building to identify suitable adaptations which will support physical distancing, for example seating layout changes, appropriate signage, stickers and floor markings to denote safe distances, etc</li> <li>• Establishing maximum occupancy limits for all areas of the buildings.</li> </ul> | <p>MOC Follow Up &amp; MOC Ushering</p> <p>ALL</p> |

| Hazards Associated With The Coronavirus Pandemic | Potential risks to members of the congregation, volunteers & visitors caused by the hazards.  | Control Measures   | Further Actions Required                      |
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| <b>3. Higher risk areas of the building</b>      | <p>Heavily used areas of the building are more likely to present an infection transmission risk.</p> <p>Toilets are essential for members, volunteers and visitors to wash their hands regularly but also the toilets must be kept clean and free of coronavirus contamination. A number of people going to the toilet together may compromise their ability to comply with physical distancing.</p> <p>Increased risk of people coughing and touching door handles, taps and toilet flush handles.</p> | <p>• Some meetings will take place using telephone conferencing or zoom facilities.</p> <p>The church will display notices throughout the church building reminding members, volunteers and visitors of the key infection prevention requirements, including the need to maintain safe physical distancing.</p> <p>• Recorded announcements reminding the congregation about the need for social distancing are relayed promptly after each service</p> <p>Ensuring higher-risk/high-traffic areas of the building are effectively controlled by applying appropriate safety precautions, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stressing the need for everyone to follow good hygiene practice at all times (i.e. regular handwashing, using tissues and disposing of them appropriately, etc)</li> <li>• Ensuring that adequate hand-cleaning resources are provided; all toilets to be supplied with adequate supplies of water, liquid soap and papers towels</li> <li>• Printing handwashing instructions/posters and displaying throughout the building, especially in toilets</li> <li>• Limiting the numbers of people who can use high traffic areas such as corridors, stairs, toilets and restrooms at any one time to ensure physical distancing</li> <li>• Limiting lift occupancy (1 person or 1 household). All are encouraged to use the stairs if they can; thereby allowing those who need the lift the opportunity to do so.</li> </ul> | <p><b>MOC Technical</b></p> <p><b>ALL</b></p> |

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| <p><b>4. Vulnerable and Extremely Vulnerable members, volunteers and visitors</b></p> <p>Some members volunteers or visitors may have pre-existing medical conditions which render them more vulnerable to the dangers of coronavirus infection.</p> | <p>People with pre-existing medical conditions may be more vulnerable to the ill effects of COVID 19</p> | <p>People at high risk are advised to follow the guidance on how to stay safe and prevent the spread of COVID 19. In addition, they should take advice from their health professional on what additional precautions may be suitable for them.</p>  | <p><b>MOC Ushering</b></p> <p><b>MOC Housekeeping</b></p> |
|  |  | <p><b>Control Measures</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monitoring high-traffic area use and regulate access as necessary. (Usher provided with walkie talkies to enhance monitoring)</li> <li>•Prioritising disabled use where necessary e.g disabled toilet use, use of lifts, etc</li> <li>• Establishing safe queuing systems by use of room occupancy limits and floor markings/signage, etc</li> <li>• Placing alcohol hand sanitisers gels at convenient places around the building with instructions for use</li> <li>• Increasing environmental cleaning, especially in and around toilets, and; special attention to be paid to frequently touched surfaces such as door handles, toilet flush handles, light switches, etc</li> <li>• Increasing toilets/washrooms inspections to check for cleanliness/adequate stock of soap/toilet paper, etc</li> <li>•Where possible, provide papers towels.</li> </ul> |   |

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| <b>5. Premises access and travel</b>                         | <p>Travel to and from your building may lead to a greater risk of virus transmission.</p> <p>Public transport may be restricted in order to achieve physical distancing on trains, buses, etc</p> <p>Access to church buildings may create a virus transmission risk if people all seek entrance at once or are channelled through single points of entry.</p> <p>Risks may be increased for disabled people who may have reduced options for access</p> | <p>The church will apply the following arrangements to ensure safe access to the building:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure assistance and directives are given at access points to the church building so that people do not congregate at entrances and exits; ensure that all access points have supplies of hand sanitiser gel available for use</li> <li>• Maintain disabled access arrangements to ensure safe entrance or exit for disabled people</li> <li>• Use floor markings and signage at entrances and exits and introduce one-way flow systems at entry and exit points where appropriate and or possible.</li> <li>• provide alcohol-based hand sanitiser gel at entrances and exits.</li> </ul> |   |
| <b>6. Cases of possible infection in the church building</b> | <p>High risk of an unwell / symptomatic person spreading the virus in church.</p>  | <p>A members, volunteer or visitor may become unwell whilst attending the church building, or a symptomatic person may attend the building.</p> <p>If a member, volunteer or visitor becomes unwell in the church building with coronavirus symptoms (a new, continuous cough or a high temperature) they should be sent home and advised to follow Government advice to self-isolate.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Public Health England Covid-19 guidance for non-healthcare settings outside the home will be followed.</li> </ul> <p>The following actions should be taken within the building:</p>   | <p><b>MOC Ushering, MOC House Keeping &amp; MOC Follow Up</b></p> |





| <b>Hazards Associated With The Coronavirus Pandemic</b>   |   | <b>Control Measures</b>   | <b>Further Actions Required</b> |
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| <p><b>8. A Choir or music group singing as part of a public, livestreamed or recorded service.</b></p> <p><b>Choir practice</b></p> | <p>Increased risk of choristers catching or spreading the</p> | <p>Singing causes the generation of more particles as they breath more heavily thereby increasing the risk of catching or passing on COVID 19 consequently, the use of Face covering is required. There is a reasonable excuse for a chorister to remove a face covering when it is reasonably necessary for them to sing (e.g. in the choir or during service, rehearsal or a ministration).</p> <p>Limit movement of choristers during rehearsals to the choir stand area and nearest aisle (next to the kitchen).</p> <p>Provision of disinfecting wipes for musical instruments</p> | <p><b>MOC Choir</b></p>         |
| <p><b>9. Supervised activities for Children Church</b></p>  | <p>Risk of children spreading COVID 19</p>                    | <p>Supervised children’s activities as permitted</p> <p>Supervised children’s activities are permitted from the 12th April 2021. The Government’s guidance on out of school settings give details on how these activities will be operated safely by the church.</p>  | <p><b>MOC Children</b></p>      |

## APPENDIX 2.1 Summary of how current National regulations impact activities in the place of worship

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| Activity   | Places of worship remain open for communal worship. This is now one of the very few legal exemptions that allow larger numbers of people to gather. It is therefore crucial that places of worship and those attending comply with both law and the COVID-19 Secure guidance. |
| Individual Prayer  | A single person or individual household may enter the venue to pray on their own. No specific restrictions.   |
| Communal Prayer / Devotions and Meditation   | Open for as many people as can be safely accommodated with social distancing measures   |
| Communal Worship   | Open for as many people as can be safely accommodated with social distancing measures   |
| Wedding Ceremonies   | Open for as many people as can be safely accommodated with social distancing measures   |
| Wedding Receptions   | Wedding receptions will have to comply with the new requirements where they meet the attendee threshold set out in the guidance.  |
| Funerals   | Permitted without any specific cap on numbers attending. A statutory risk assessment must be carried out and all reasonable measures taken to limit risk of transmission of coronavirus.  |
| Homegroups or other meetings taking place in private homes.<br>Ministering to the sick and dying | No restriction. Safe social distancing to respect people's personal space should be observed. Presently house fellowships continues to be conducted online.   |

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| Provision of youth service                          | No restriction. Safe social distancing to respect people's personal space should be observed.   |
| Supervised Activities for Children / Sunday school) | Supervised children's activities are permitted from the 12th of April 2021. The Government's guidance on out of school settings give details on how these activities will be operated safely. |

## **Plan B**

If the data suggests the NHS is likely to come under unsustainable pressure, the Government has prepared a Plan B for England. The Government hopes not to have to implement Plan B, but given the uncertainty, it is setting out details now so that the public and businesses know what to expect if further measures become necessary.

Given the high levels of protection in the adult population against COVID-19 by vaccination, relatively small changes in policy and behaviour could have a big impact on reducing (or increasing) transmission, bending the epidemic curve and relieving pressure on the NHS. Thanks to the success of the vaccination programme, it should be possible to handle a further resurgence with less damaging measures than the lockdowns and economic and social restrictions deployed in the past. The Government would provide prior notice as far as possible to the public and Parliament ahead of implementing any necessary changes in a Plan B scenario.

The Government's Plan B prioritises measures which can help control transmission of the virus while seeking to minimise economic and social impacts. This includes:

- a. Communicating clearly and urgently to the public that the level of risk has increased, and with it the need to behave more cautiously.
- b. Introducing mandatory vaccine-only COVID-status certification in certain settings.
- c. Legally mandating face coverings in certain settings.

The Government would also consider asking people once again to work from home if they can, for a limited period. The Government recognises this causes more disruption and has greater immediate costs to the economy and some businesses than the other Plan B interventions, so a final decision would be made based on the data at the time.

