

**Lowmoor Church Wigton**  
**Lowmoor Road, Wigton Cumbria, CA7 9QP**

**Date: 01/09/2020**

**Covid-19 Risk Assessment**

This assessment has been carried out in light of ‘**Covid-19 Guidance for safe use of places of worship from 4 July**’ published by GOV.UK on 27 July 2020 and in consultation with the church pastor Paul Cox and Terry Wright- Elder.

As venue managers we consider it safe to open for worship on the basis of the mitigations and precautions set out below. Initially we are limiting ourselves to one Sunday service at 10.30 am. We will seek to encourage people to maintain social distance and use the hand sanitizer on arrival and departure from the church. We will encourage people to leave as soon as the service is over to avoid the greater risk of spreading the virus between different households.

**Access**

Access and exit to the church will be by the front doors. We will seek to avoid queuing occurring. There is adequate room to allow for a one way entry and exit movement.

**The use of shared items**

The worship service will not involve the use of shared items or aids to worship, other than the overhead projection and when we share communion. Coats can be placed on the back of the seats rather than hung on communal rails. Bibles will be left at the back of the seats and must be returned there at the end of the service and left for a period of 72 hours – 3 days before being used again.

**Food and Drink**

At the present time we will not serve drinks following the service.

**Singing, chanting and the use of musical instruments**

At the present time singing is not allowed so we will listen to recorded Worship DVD’s in the services. The person leading the service will use the PA system and members of the congregation will be encouraged to share in Bible readings and prayer during the service.

## **Children**

If any children come they will be supervised by a parent or guardian. There will be one play corner for the use of one family only at a time bringing/taking away their toys.

## **Collections**

There will be a basket at the door of the church for donations. The contents will be tipped into a plastic box and kept for 72 hours before handling by the Treasurer or another person. Online giving will be encouraged.

## **Test and Trace**

People who are not already known to us will be asked to provide their name and phone number which we will keep in hard copy for 21 days from the conclusion of the service.

## **Capacity**

We have placed chairs at 2m apart so allowing up to between 15 – 20 people to attend but there is room for more chairs to be put out if required whilst maintaining the social distance guidelines. We will make sure that internal doors will be fixed open to allow ventilation and allow for easier movement in and out of the church.

## **Social Distancing**

At all times we will adhere to social distancing of at least two metres and remind folk to maintain this at all times. The seats have been placed side by side and face coverings will be worn. People will be asked to use hand cleanser on entry. The exception to wearing face coverings will be for the person leading but they must still maintain the 2 metres distance with the other people attending the service and replace the face covering once the service is finished.

## **Toilets**

People will be asked to use the disabled toilet as this will be the only one available. Queuing should be avoided. There will be liquid soap and disposable paper towels to use.

## **Cleaning**

While the building is only being used on a Sunday morning, regular cleaning will be carried out after 72 hours from the Sunday.

## **Communication**

Every person attending church will be given a copy of this document. A copy will be placed at the back of the church and on the church's website.

## **Review**

The risk assessment will be reviewed every four weeks.

## **Signed:**

Paul Cox - Pastor

Terry Wright - Elder and Church Secretary/Treasurer.