## Coronavirus (COVID-19) Risk Assessment for Galeed Chapel, 80 Gloucester Road, BRIGHTON

Venue Manager responsible for Coronavirus Risk Assessment: Pastor Dr Matthew J. Hyde

Background: Galeed Chapel, is an Independent Chapel for Public Worship which is used only for the following: Routine Communal Worship; the Ordinances of Baptism by Immersion and the Lord's Supper, Church Meetings (members only); and Weddings and Funerals.

Galeed Chapel has one employee only: the pastor. The pastor is assisted by one Deacon. Typically the congregation numbers 26 from 6 households.

The Chapel buildings that are used comprise the main chapel used for worship, a porch, vestries, and toilets.

**How was the risk assessment done?** The pastor visited the chapel specifically for this purpose, touring the site to identify hazards, using HM Government's Guidance "COVID-19: Guidance for the safe use of places of worship from 4 July" Published 29 June 2020. It has been discussed with the deacon and worshippers, on completion it will be made available to the congregation and on the porch noticeboard. It should be read with the accompanying pastoral letter (dated 30/06/20) circulated to all the congregation.

What are the hazards?	Who might be harmed and how?	What are you already doing to control the risks?	What further action do you need to do to control the risks?	Who needs to carry out the action?	When needed by?	Done
Communal worship of the public gathering from different households.	All worshippers and visitors.	Pews roped off to ensure at least 2m between individuals when seated in the pews. Members of the same household will sit together in the same pew.  A one-way system has been put in place to aid social distancing. This has been signposted.  Tapes have been put on the floor at 2m apart at the main points of queuing.  Ventilation will be increased as possible by opening windows in the gallery and opening the doors at the pulpit end of the chapel.		Pastor		

		Individuals who are self-isolating or particularly vulnerable to COVID-19 will be asked to contact the pastor about accessing the services remotely.  Anybody wishing to access drinking water must bring their own to the chapel.	Congregation	
Large numbers of attendees.	All worshippers and visitors.	The responsibility of ensuring that gathering limits set locally are adhered to, and where the advised limit is set in the government's guidance as 30 people, will be given to the deacon or another church member.  The chapel can comfortably hold 16 household units/bubbles seated 2metres apart	Deacon	
The use of shared items.	Worshippers who use Bibles, and Hymn & Tunebooks.	Regular worshippers will be asked to bring and take away their own books to each service or to gather them together into a bag in their pew to ensure use is limited to them alone.  Clean Bibles and hymnbooks will be available to	Congregation  Deacon	
		visitors who do not bring their own. These will be quarantined for 48 hours again after use.		
Food and drink	Only the church members (currently 7) participating	The pastor will wash his hands thoroughly before the Lord's Supper. Once the bread is broken, it will be passed on the plate to the members so that they only have to touch the piece of bread they will eat.	Pastor	
	in the Ordinance of	Members that are at higher risk (e.g. over 70) will be served the bread first.	Deacon	
	the Lord's Supper (eating bread and	We take our rule for faith and practice from the Bible. 1 Corinthians 11 quotes the Lord Jesus saying, "drink this cup". We will use one cup in this ordinance, with the small number of members	Deacon	

	drinking	present endeavouring to sip from a different part of			
	wine).	the rim – the deacon will facilitate. Again, members			
		that are higher risk will be served first.  The bread and wine will remain covered on the table until they are used.	Deacon		
		Members will be aware of these points, and will partake of this ordinance voluntarily, and will not be disciplined for not doing partaking.	Members		
Singing	All worshippers	Singing together is an essential part of worship, as supported by numerous texts in the Bible (e.g. Psalm 100, Revelation 5 v9, Colossians 3 v16). The singing of hymns in our worship is always of a regular order, and notice is always given when hymns are about to be sung. Any worshippers or visitors would be at liberty to leave during singing. Adequate ventilation will be maintained throughout the service, including during singing.  We will limit the length of any one hymn to six verses maximum, and we only sing three hymns	Deacon		
		each service.  Members of the congregation will be asked to sing downwards in a muted way if they wish to join in the singing.	Congregation		
Weddings and Funerals	Limited numbers of	The relevant guidance will be followed for these services.	Pastor	As needed	
runerais	guests and mourners	Services.		needed	
Use of Water	The pastor and the candidate	As a Strict Baptist Chapel the ordinance of Baptism is an essential part of our Faith and Practice, in obedience to our Lord and Saviour.	Pastor	As needed	

	being	Rule 2 of our Articles of Faith and Rules states "at		
	baptised.	the earliest convenient opportunity, the person		
		shall by immersion, be so baptised in the Name		
		of the Father, and of the Son, and of The Holy		
		Ghost;" From our rule of scripture in Acts 8 v36-37		
		the question is asked "what doth hinder me to		
		baptised? And Philip said, If thou believest with all		
		thine heart thou mayest." The only hindrance ought		
		to be unbelief.		
		The ordinance of baptism by immersion will only		
		take place if both the pastor and candidate are free		
		of possible coronavirus symptoms and have not		
		been traced as a contact of a positive case. Both the		
		pastor and the candidate enter into this ordinance		
		willingly, and will keep in mind the following points.		
		Others present will be out of range of any potential		
		splashing. Assistance by others with changing out of		
		wet clothes will not take place unless in an		
		emergency. Both the pastor and the candidate will		
		thoroughly wash their hands before and after and		
		ensure good hygiene.		
Cash Donations	All	Online giving will be promoted as the means of	Deacon	
	worshippers	giving of first choice.		
	and visitors	Where this is not an option, cash will be collected in		
	who	the collection boxes which will then only be		
	voluntarily	handled by one person, the Deacon. Regular		
	wish to	cleaning and hygiene will be maintained, and gloves		
	contribute to	worn to handle cash.		
	the			
	collection.			

Young people	All	Young people will be under the supervision of their		Parents	
and children.	worshippers	parents or guardians, and will accompany them for			
		all services at Galeed Chapel. There is currently no			
		Sunday School or Youth Group.			
Test and Trace	All	We will keep an accurate temporary record of		Deacon	
	worshippers	visitors for 21 days, in a notebook with pages that			
	and visitors.	will be dated and torn out after 21 days.			
Further aspects	All	Notices will be put up reminding congregants of the		Pastor	
of Social		importance of social distancing and hygiene, etc.			
Distancing					
Hygiene	All	Communal towels will be removed and replaced,	Signs and posters.	PH	
		with disposable paper towels and dispensers with	Hand sanitisers.		
		bins.			
Toilets	All	In addition to any of the above relevant points,		PH	
		regularly cleaned, ensuring ventilation.			
Cleaning		Services only occur on 3 days per week. Cleaning,		PH	
		especially of those things most frequently touched			
		such as door handles and rails, will be regularly			
		cleaned in the twenty-four hours after services			
		have been held, using standard cleaning products.			
Protecting the		Note will be taken of worshippers who are either		Pastor	
Vulnerable		over the age of 70 or are in the more vulnerable			
		categories. It will be discussed on an individual			
		basis what their wishes are, and what actions need			
		to be taken.			
Travel	Most	Parking is available in the surrounding public		Congregation	
	worshippers	carparks, all of which are well signed with regards			
	come by car.	to social distancing.			