Christ Church Dunstable Youth and Children’s Work 2021

Risk Assessment

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Version 1.0 | Initial document for Frontline and Nano written by GM & BD |
| Version 1.1 | Internal draft with Sunday service children’s work updates |
| Version 1.2 | Updated after internal comments and distributed to RA team and elders |
| Version 1.3 | Updated with risk mitigation addressing singing in line with legislative changes |
| Version 1.4 | Updated in line with new legislation – 02/12/2020 |
| Version 1.4.1 | Updated in line with guidelines update 13/04/21 |
| Version 1.5 | Reviewed refreshments in groups  Added section for toddlers (Recommenced 30 April 2021) |
| Version 1.6 | Updated in line with guidelines update 10/05/2021 |
| Version 2.0 | Updated to move in line with guidance change on 19/08/21.  Note: This is a significate change to guidance with the governments step 4 of the Road map. |

# Relevant documents

The latest government guidance documents at the time this risk assessment was written can be found here –

* <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/protective-measures-for-holiday-or-after-school-clubs-and-other-out-of-school-settings-for-children-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak/protective-measures-for-out-of-school-settings-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak>
* <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-early-years-and-childcare-closures#who-this-guidance-is-for>

Introduction

Before we get to the details and mitigation of the risks specific to youth and children’s work, we are putting in place five principles:

* we will aim to create an environment where children and young people can hear the Word of God safely.
* we will aim to create an environment and culture that makes it easy for people to protect themselves and others.
* we (Church leaders, RA team, youth and children teams) will lead by example.

This risk assessment covers a wide range of contexts where youth and children’s work is running at Christ Church Dunstable.

The risk assessment team which has contributed to this risk assessment are:

1. Pat Wilson (Chair), Chair of Governors, Lark Rise Academy
2. Ben Deeley, Assistant Pastor for Youth & Children, Christ Church Dunstable
3. Peter Lawrence, Frontline Nano Team Leader and Store Manager with M&S
4. Gareth Mitchell, Associate Pastor and Managing Trustee, Christ Church Dunstable
5. Beth Wildsmith, Frontline Nano Team.
6. Ann Wintersgill, previously Deputy Head, Ardley Hill Academy
7. Jonny Barham, Operations Manager, Christ Church Dunstable
8. (up to version 1.4) Jeremy Curtis, Director of Operations, Christ Church Dunstable

# General Risks & Mitigations

Covering all contexts where children and youth from ages 0 - 18yrs meet on or off the church premises.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Risks** | **Mitigation** |
| Minimizing contact with individuals who are unwell | Making parents aware that children and young people should not attend the setting if they have COVID symptoms or other reasons requiring them to stay at home, in line with current guidance.  Encouraging secondary aged children to engage with regular testing.  Making parents aware through email, signage and announcements. |
| Incoming people infecting surfaces | Good hygiene encouraged including:   * Frequent hand cleaning. * Encouraging thorough hand washing after toilet use. * Using sanitizer after toilet use. |
| Cross session contamination | Consideration taken for any regularly used surfaces to be cleaned |
| Others using the facilities after event passes | Cleaning of all used facilities in line with appropriate checklists |
| Toilets | Following church wide guidelines. |
| Refreshments/water | If food is consumed as part of an activity or regularly part of the program the individual risks will be assessed by the team and minimized. |
| Terror, security and emergencies | Keeping bollard up in forecourt.  Leaders to be aware of the surroundings. |
| Development of symptoms | A “safe space” will be allocated for any who develop symptoms during the event.  Any developing symptoms will be required to stay in this safe space.  Anyone developing symptoms during the session will be sent home for self-isolation. |
| Normal H&S | See separate risk assessment for field Health & Safety. |
| Singing | Leaders will consider minimizing individual risks for their specific context including where appropriate: -   * Singing outside or the ability to having good ventilation in the building * Avoiding singing face to face * Keeping greater distancing between children |
| Aerosol transmission of the virus | ‘Catch it, bin it, Kill it’ will be encouraged.  Occupied spaces to be well ventilated and poorly ventilated spaces kept to minimum use. |

### Capacity

* Maximum in line with current health and safety guidelines; and safeguarding guidelines.

# Change Control

A post-session review will be performed, and a policy of continual improvement will be in place.

* Changes to the risk assessment will require team (electronic) approval.
* Changes to the risk mitigation strategies and implementation of those strategies will be left to the operational staff.

# Management Checklists & Personnel

* Cleaning schedules for toilets and equipment.
* Opening & closing checklist.

# PPE

Children and young people and leaders are free to use PPE as they would like. There will be a culture where children and young people feel comfortable wearing a face covering if they would like to.

# Outbreak Management Plan

In the case of several confirmed cases with 14 days for any of the children and youth provisions:

* Contact made by an appropriate leader to the dedicated advice service 08000468687 option 1.
* The advice service may enforce various measures including:
  + Wearing of face coverings
  + Reintroduction of ‘bubbles’ and limiting capacity.