

# **COVID 19 GUIDANCE COMPLIANCE STATEMENT**

## **The Everlasting Arms Ministries**

**This place of worship has followed the UK government guidance on managing risk of Covid 19:**

- We have carried out a COVID-19 risk assessment and share the result with the church members
- We have cleaning , handwashing and hygiene procedures in line with the UK government guidance
- We have taken all reasonable steps to prevent spread of COVID-19 during our church service
- We have taken all reasonable steps to maintain a 1 meter plus distance at our place of worship
- We have done everything practical to manage transmission of infection

Date 14/07/2020

Next update will be followed by new government guidance

## THE EVERLASTING ARMS MINISTRY COVID 19 ACTION PLANS

### **Action: Promote Physical Distancing**

We have limited the size of gatherings in the auditorium accordance with the guidance of UK government guidelines to places of worship

- We will continue video streaming our services on You Tube, Facebook and other social media

- If appropriate and possible, add additional services to weekly schedules to maintain social

distancing at each service, ensuring that pastors, ministers, church workers(volunteers), at the services can maintain social distance

- We have Considered holding our services and gatherings in a large, well-ventilated church auditorium on the ground and second floor

- Attendees who do not live in the same household will be spaced out to at least 2 metre apart where possible; and consider limiting seating to alternate rows.

- For other gatherings, such as funerals, weddings, a maximum of 30 members will be allowed to attend according to UK government guidelines for such events with social distance strictly adhere to.

Other church programmes such as Sunday school, and house fellowships, youth events etc will be conducted virtually

Church monthly thanksgiving service will be conducted without members dancing to the altar to offer their appreciation to God. Instead members will remain standing by their respective seats and offer praises to GOD with their mask on. During this process social distance rules still apply

### **Action: Plan for When a Congregant Becomes Sick**

- Check for signs and symptoms by congregants who are sick to stay at home

- **Identify an area** to separate anyone who exhibits COVID-like symptoms during hours of

operation, and ensure that children are not left without adult supervision.

- Follow established procedures for safely transporting anyone who becomes sick at the facility to their home or a healthcare facility.

- To notify local health officials such as track and trace NHS team or NHS 111 if a person diagnosed with COVID-19 has been in the facility and communicate with congregants about potential exposure while maintaining confidentiality as required by the Data Protection Act 2018

- Inform those with exposure to a person diagnosed with COVID-19 to stay at home and self-isolate for symptoms and to follow government guidelines if symptoms develop.

Close off areas used by the sick person, and do not use the area until after it has been cleaned and disinfected;

wait 24 hours to clean and disinfect to reduce risk to individuals cleaning. If it is not possible

to wait 24 hours, wait as long as possible before cleaning and disinfecting.

Ensure safe and

correct application of disinfectants and keep disinfectant products away from children.

- Advise sick congregants not to return to the place of worship until they have met the UK government criteria to discontinue home isolation

### **Action: Limit Community Sharing of Ministry and Worship Materials**

- Frequently touched objects, such as worship aids, Bibles, books, or other items passed or shared are not allowed and should be discouraged among congregants, and encourage congregants to bring their own, if possible, or provide photocopies or project prayers, songs, and texts using electronic means.

Items such as microphones should not be shared among pastors, ministers and choirs. A disposable microphone covers will be provided

- The methods used to receive financial contributions, such as tithes, offerings or any form of financial donations are now being modified. Stationary ushering baskets will be provided at a strategic location/collection points near the exit door of the auditoriums. Members are encouraged to use electronic methods to make payments where possible. The church account details will be displayed on the screen intermittently during church services.

- Avoid or limit close physical contacts among church members during worship (such as approaching the altar to receive communion) as well as mediated contact through frequently touched objects as mentioned above

### **Action: Intensify Cleaning, Disinfection, and Ventilation**

Frequently touched surfaces will be cleaned and disinfected after the church service by the appropriate allocated members from the span and clean department using the cleaning and disinfecting agents provided, according to the church protocols (ref **to church protocols for cleaning**)

- Avoid the use of items that are not easily cleaned, sanitized, or disinfected.
- Ensure safe and correct application of disinfectants, and keep them away from children in a secured location
- We have ensured that ventilation systems are operating properly, and increase circulation of outdoor air as much as possible by opening windows and doors, using fans, etc. Windows and doors will not be opened if they pose a safety risk to children using the facility.
- Toilets will be cleaned frequently to minimize any faecal-oral transmission. Sanitizers are also provided.

### **Action: Promote Healthy Hygiene Practices**

- Use of a cloth face covering or clinical mask is mandatory at all gatherings and when in the building by everyone except children aged less than 2 years old. Not using a cloth face covering may be appropriate for some individuals who have trouble breathing or need assistance to remove their mask.
- Adequate supplies to support healthy hygiene behaviours, including soap, hand sanitizer with at least 70 percent alcohol (for staff, adults, and older children who can safely use hand sanitizer), tissues, and no-touch trash cans.
- Signs on how to stop the spread of COVID-19 and promote everyday protective measures, such as washing hands, covering coughs and sneezes, and properly wearing a face covering are displayed at the strategic location within the church premises.

### **Minimizing COVID-19 Spread**

Speed is of the essence when it comes to contact identification and tracing.

The

church has set up a system to collect information for all congregants entering the building including visitors.

- Keep a log of where each person sits. Assign seat and row number (or table number)

to your sanctuary and meeting rooms.

- Everyone entering the building will be registered. Name and contact information including mobile phone numbers are registered.

Every member of each household needs to register.

- The record will be maintained for at least three weeks.

- A designated person will be nominated in the church (**site manager**) as required by law, who will be responsible for maintaining the meeting registration and liaising with the department of health/ health and safety executives/ other government agencies and helping to identify contacts if necessary.

- Plans to sanitize the place of worship during and between gatherings are in place.

## **Importance of Face Masks**

Because anyone who walks into the church could be an **asymptomatic spreader/ carrier**, putting a face mask on, everyone entering the church can reduce the spread of the virus. To increase the proportion of face mask users, everyone (including leaders) are require wearing them. This takes away the stigma and employs positive peer pressure to encourage use.

It is important to note **that not all masks are equal; surgical masks offer more protection than cloth masks, which are a hygiene tool and not protective equipment.**

There are different types of face masks. Please use the type you are comfortable with and wear them properly.

***Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth" (1 John 3:18). This is a time for love put into wise action for ourselves, our families, our neighbours, our community, and our church. In these circumstances, we seek to be guided by God. This means that we must seek out biblical wisdom through the Scriptures to guide our actions. We should also use other means of knowing that God has given us—like science—to guide our COVID-19 reopening plans***  
*COVID-19 involves planning and then managing through different stages of a crisis. Through these steps you can take a faithful approach to assessing needs, being good stewards, and witnessing to God's love for our neighbours.*

***Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth" (1 John 3:18). This is a time for love put into wise action for ourselves, our families, our neighbour's, our community, and our church. In these circumstances, we seek to be guided by God. This means that we must seek out biblical wisdom through the Scriptures to guide our actions. We should also use other means of knowing that God has given us—like science—to guide our COVID-19 reopening plans.***

***Date 21/07/2020***

***The above action plans are subject to change following new government directives/ guidelines***

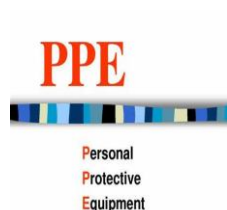
## PROTOCOLS FOR CLEANING AND DISINFECTION

### ACTIONS AGAINST COVID -19

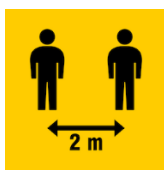
- We disinfect all surfaces after the church services



- Our span and clean team members wear personal protective equipment (PPE), during the cleaning process



- We use bleach and cleaning products that are capable of eliminating 99.99 % of bacteria and viruses such as COVID 19. 10% bleach or 70% alcohol solutions (solutions with a minimum of 10% bleach or 70% alcohol solutions)
- We maintain a safety distance of 2 meters



- We take the temperature of our workers



**PROTOCOLS FOR ENTERING THE CHURCH: ACTIONS AGAINST COVID-19**

**Members Arrive with Face Mask On**

**(COMPULSORY)**



**<37.5 TEMPERATURE CHECKED> 37.5**



**And recorded**



**Allow entry into the building Deny Entry**

**And proceed to sanitize your hands**



**Member(s) to contact 111**

**for further advise**

**Sanitize your hands**





**Proceed to the Auditorium**



**Please follow the 2 meters rule & social distance measures in place**



**Re Sanitize your hands before entering the auditorium**



**Ushers to direct members to where to sit inside the auditorium**

**PLEASE NOTE:**

**NO RESERVATION OF SEATS AND NO LOITERRING AROUND WITHIN THE PREMISES**

**THE ABOVE PROTOCOLS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE, FOLLOWING NEW UK  
GOVERNMENT GUIDELINES**

**THANK YOU FOR HELPING US TO KEEP YOU SAFE**

**THE EVERLASTING ARMS MINISRIES**

**606-608 OLD KENT ROAD, LONDON**

**ENGLAND. SE15 1JB**