

Romsey Methodist Church - Risk Assessment in relation to Covid-19

Activity: Tiddlywinks New Mums Support Group

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Introduction:

The Coronavirus-19 is a highly infectious disease primarily affecting the respiratory system. The disease can be transmitted as an aerosol from human exhalation/inhalation or by physical contact with an infected surface. The disease can be transmitted prior to an infected person exhibiting symptoms. Surfaces can remain infected between 48 hours to 72 hours. It is understood that transmission of the virus likely occurs mainly indoors and in settings where there is close proximity between people.

Description of activity:

The "Tiddlywinks New Mums Support Group" provides a space for new mums to meet and chat with other mums for support. The group also highlights organisations which provides support (such as with breast feeding) via leaflets. The group is able to meet during the covid restrictions under the Exception of providing support to new parents. The restrictions limit those attending to 15 adults.

People will be required to book via Eventbrite or email to attend the session. When booking to attend people will be advised not to come if they are feeling unwell or have symptoms related to Covid-19. At booking households will be asked to provide the information needed for track and trace. The track and trace register will be retained for 21 days. An NHS QR code will also be available for the venue.

The "Tiddlywinks New Mums Support Group" meets on Monday (10-11:30am) for non-movers and on Wednesday (2-3:30pm) for all babies. We are defining babies as aged 0-13 months. The session includes refreshments.

Persons at risk:

The persons at risk are those attending, the volunteers and the cleaner. The minimum number of volunteers possible will be used to reduce individual's interactions.

In the event of fire, all fire safety measures take precedence. The leader will escort everyone out of the building

Should a person feel unwell or demonstrate symptoms of Covid-19 then they should be isolated in the Wesley Room with a Church Steward attending and ensuring a surgical mask and protective gloves are worn. The unwell person should remain in the Wesley Room until it is safe to exit the building without further contact of others. The Wesley Room and other areas where the person was sitting will be sanitised. A note against the name of the person should be made on the registration sheet. In the event of a more complex condition emergency services should be contacted.

Risk / Hazard	Mitigation actions
<p>Not maintaining social distancing on arrival / departure</p> <p>Higher risk of infection if social distancing is not maintained</p>	<p>People will enter and exit through the side doors so they don't have to use the steps with buggies. A one-way system is not required as people won't be arriving as others leave. Queuing will be minimal due to the low numbers.</p> <p>People will be asked if they are feeling well when they arrive. When booking to attend, people will be sent an email explaining the joining instructions. A copy of our risk assessment will be available on the church website and is clear that any infringement will be challenged.</p>
<p>Not maintaining social distancing within the church</p> <p>Higher risk of infection if social distancing is not maintained</p>	<p>Mums are required to book a ticket for both themselves and their baby. Each mum will be given a "station" with a small table, chair, space for a buggy and for a play blanket. These "stations" will be placed in the church to ensure social distancing. The booking system will limit attendance to 15.</p> <p>At the Monday session, babies are non-movers so mums will be able to stay at their table area. This gives mums the opportunity to choose a session where the babies are easily socially distanced as well. At the Wednesday session, some babies may be crawling and toddling and play together. Mums will be told that if they need to get close to another adult to retrieve their baby, then they should put their face covering back on.</p> <p>Mums will be asked to bring their own toys, changing mat and play blanket. A box of toys will be provided by the church at the Wednesday session. These will be quarantined after the session.</p>
<p>Not maintaining hygiene requirements and contaminating by touch during the session</p> <p>Higher risk of infection spread if proper hygiene not followed</p>	<p>The team setting up will use hand sanitiser before touching chairs / tables / equipment. The ceiling fan and air purifiers will be on.</p> <p>Mums will be asked to wear a mask as they arrive and to use the hand sanitiser on their way in. Once at their "station", mums can remove their mask.</p> <p>The refreshments offered to mums will be hot and cold drinks plus biscuits.</p> <p>As always, mums will be asked to take nappy waste home with them</p>

Relevant legislation - Exception 7: support groups of Part 1 of Schedule 2 of the legislation

<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2020/1374/made/data.pdf>

Guidance for serving refreshments: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-for-food-businesses/guidance-for-food-businesses-on-coronavirus-covid-19> and

<https://www.food.gov.uk/business-guidance/personal-hygiene>

