

The Eldership team, together with the TrustBoard and some 'advisors' met earlier during the week. The purpose of the meeting was to make a plan for Bridges people to be able to continue to meet together in a way that is 'safe' and compliant with the framework guidelines as set out by the Government.

This 'plan' will be put in place for the 19th of December, and then start again on the 16th of January through to the end of February at which time the leadership team will 'revise' if any changes to the plan are required going forward.

The Plan

It was always our position not to have a 'vaccine passport church' and therefore not discriminating by excluding unvaccinated people from meeting here on Sundays. New guidelines were put out this week which allow us to switch between gatherings with vaccine passes and gatherings without, or they can be run simultaneously in two separate spaces.

There is no easy, nor an ideal way to do church under this system. However the leadership team are united in our agreement that the following plan is our best way forward at this particular time.

We believe the best way to include everyone and at the same time cater for those who feel vulnerable, is to have a 'vaccine passport gathering' and a 'non vaccine passport gathering' running simultaneously in the building.

There will be separate (clearly labelled) entrances for these spaces and these groups are unable to mix unless it is outside after the service.

There will be a separate space for the kids to be at a programme which will run for the entire service, also with a separate entrance for parents to drop off and collect their kids.

Entrance/Exit 1 - The main entrance to the cafe area will be for those using the auditorium and will be a 'vaccine pass' entrance. Parents using this entrance can take their kids upstairs and sign them into the 'Totara Room' (the room across the lobby with the kitchenette in it). There is no number limit for people meeting in the auditorium. This is the reason the potentially bigger group has been allocated the bigger space.

Entrance/Exit 2 - The next door along (as you walk towards Hayleys Lane CarPark) is the stairwell which goes directly upto the Totara Room. This will be the entrance for those not using vaccine passes to take their kids up to kids church and sign them in & out after the service.

Entrance/Exit 3 - The door at the end nearest Hayleys Lane car park is the door to the Wreford room. This will be the entrance for those not using vaccine passports. There is a limit of 50 people (as long as we are under 'orange') plus staff and volunteers in this meeting space.

Toilets

People attending the 'vaccine passport gathering' will only be able to use the bathroom facilities upstairs

People attending the 'non vaccine passport gathering' will only be able to use the downstairs toilets using the creche as access

Cafe

We will operate the cafe as an indoor and alfresco cafe (outdoors with tables). The 'vaccine passport attendees' are free to use both areas at will. To comply with government requirements, tables set up at the entrance to the car park will provide 'non-vaccine passport attendees' with ability to access and enjoy coffee and food in the alfresco area. The alfresco area will still have a limit of 50 people gathering

Protocols

- Please sign in on arrival either via the app or manual sign in sheets
- We are asking people to please wear a mask (not mandatory but if you are able to)
- Respect distancing
- If you are unwell, please stay at home