

**MOUNT ZION BAPTIST CHURCH, 16 CANTERBURY ROAD,  
ASHFORD TN24 6JX**

**ADDITION TO RISK ASSESSMENT WORSHIP AND SUNDAY  
SCHOOL**

**SEPTEMBER 2020**

**Latest Government guidance - Rule of Six**

Exemptions to the 'rule of six' include acts of worship and children's groups. See Extract from Government guidance on Rule of Six below. Worship services and Sunday School are therefore still allowed within the current rules. COVID-19 safety measures remain in place at all times, with extra awareness of the size of groups at all times, especially informally.

**Class sizes in Sunday School**

If the number of children in a department exceeds 15 (maximum group size allowed), the following measures will take place. For Seniors the additional children will sit in the gallery with an accompanying adult. For Juniors the display boards will be put down the middle of the room to divide the children in appropriate numbers. Accompanying adults will be sitting with the children in each group. These measures accord with Government guidance (See below).

Should the national situation change, we undertake to review the continuation of Sunday School.

16 September 2020

**Extract from Government guidance on Rule of Six**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-meeting-with-others-safely-social-distancing/coronavirus-covid-19-meeting-with-others-safely-social-distancing>

Most relevant sections highlighted in red.

**2. Seeing friends and family**

When seeing friends and family you do not live with you should:

- meet in groups of 6 or less
- follow social distancing rules
- limit how many different people you see socially over a short period of time
- meet people outdoors where practical: meeting people outdoors is safer than meeting people indoors because fresh air provides better ventilation

Limits on the number of people you can see socially have changed. From Monday 14 September, when meeting friends and family you do not live

with (or have formed a support bubble with) you must not meet in a group of more than 6, indoors or outdoors. [This is against the law](#) and the police will have the powers to enforce these legal limits, including to issue fines (fixed penalty notices) of £100, doubling for further breaches up to a maximum of £3,200.

There are exceptions where groups can be larger than 6 people. These include:

- for work, or the provision of voluntary or charitable services
- registered childcare, education or training
- **supervised activities provided for children, including wraparound care, youth groups and activities, and children's playgroups**
- providing support to a vulnerable person
- providing emergency assistance, and to avoid injury or illness or to escape risk of harm
- for arrangements where children do not live in the same household as both their parents
- fulfilling a legal obligation, such as attending court or jury service
- elite sporting competition and training
- wedding and civil partnership ceremonies and receptions - up to 30 people, in a public place
- funerals - up to 30 people. This does not include wakes, other than for religious ceremonial purposes
- other religious and belief-based life cycle ceremonies - up to 30 people, in a public place. This only covers the ceremonies, and does not include celebrations of these events
- organised sport or exercises classes or licensed outdoor physical activity. This does not include informal sport or fitness activity with family or friends - this must be limited to a group of 6
- support groups - formally organised groups to provide mutual aid, therapy or any other form of support. This includes support to victims of crime, recovering addicts, new parents, people with long-term illnesses, those facing issues relating to their sexuality or gender, and those who have suffered bereavement.
- protests - if organised in compliance with COVID-19 Secure guidance

Where a group includes someone covered by such an exception (for example, someone who is working), they are not counted as part of the gatherings limit. This means - for example - a tradesperson can go into a household of six without breaching the limit, if they are there for work.

### **3. Rules in other venues and activities**

**Venues following COVID-19 secure guidelines will be able to continue to host more people in total - such as religious services in places of worship - but no one should visit in a group of greater than 6. When you visit one of these places, such as a pub, shop, leisure venue, restaurant or place of worship you should:**

- follow the limits on the number of other people you should meet with as a group - no more than six people unless you all live together (or are in the same support bubble)
- avoid social interaction with anyone outside the group you are with, even if you see other people you know
- provide your contact details to the organiser so that you can be contacted if needed by the NHS Test and Trace programme

September 2020

## Group sizes from autumn term 2020

When state schools in your local area reopen for all pupils in autumn term 2020, we are advising providers to keep children in small groups of no more than 15 children with the same children each time wherever possible (do not mix groups unless absolutely necessary) and at least one staff member, depending on the type of provision or size of the group.

Multiple groups of 15 plus staff can use the same shared space, if that is necessary, with distancing between the groups. Where this is the case the other protective measures within this guidance will be even more important to minimise the risk of infection and transmission of the virus.

Where it is possible to do so, providers should also try to work with parents, the schools or early years settings which children attend to ensure, as far as possible, children can be kept in a group with other children from the same bubble they are in during the school day. This will minimise the amount of mixing between different groups of children outside of school, and therefore the risk of infection. The government will keep group sizes under review.