



# Returning to *GKS*

Remaining COVID Secure

Guidance Document for Parents & Guardians

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# 1. Introduction

Welcome back to *God's Kingdom Seekers* or as it's better known... *GKS*!

Our new home for the foreseeable future will be the Upper Hall which is the building next to the Chapel.

With COVID restrictions in place, sessions will be shorter. Part of the restrictions of meeting indoors means that singing is not permitted, which will be a little strange for us, but we will be able to listen to music, dance, play games, do craft, and we'll definitely still be able to learn more about our amazing God each week! The hall will be kept well ventilated and some activities will take place outside, if the weather is warm and dry.

We are unable to serve food and drink so please consider sending a drink with your child(ren) each week.

We have set out this short guidance booklet to help you understand what to expect when your child(ren) return to *GKS* and to help keep them and others safe. The guidance complies with those given by the Government and the Methodist Church.

We understand that change can create fear and anxiety and we also understand that change can be frustrating and upsetting. Therefore if you or your child(ren) wish to discuss how *GKS* will be delivered over the coming months please get in touch with one of the leaders.

Although we have missed meeting as *GKS*, and we really look forward to bringing the children back together again, you should not feel under any pressure or obligation, and only send them when you feel comfortable.

*The GKS Team*

## 2. Who can attend?

*GKS* will be open to all children and a crèche facility will also be available for children under 4 years. Children under 11 are not required by law to maintain the 2m social distance requirements. Children above 11 must however comply with the 2m requirement and will therefore need to maintain a safe distance from other children over 11 and adults at all times.

Should you wish to accompany your own child in crèche, please contact us in advance so we can ensure social distancing measures can be maintained.

Those experiencing coronavirus symptoms listed below should not attend *GKS*:

- new continuous cough
- high temperature
- loss of or change to your normal sense of smell or taste (anosmia)

Any individuals who are self-isolating due to a possible or confirmed case of coronavirus (COVID-19) in the household or extended household; or if they are a contact of a case and have been advised to self-isolate should not attend.

### a. Do children need to wear a face covering/mask?

From 14 September the Welsh Government made the wearing of face masks mandatory in indoor public places for everyone over the age of 11. If your child is over the age of 11 they will have to wear a face mask to *GKS*. The Welsh Government advise the use of three-layer, non-medical face coverings. This is in line with the advice from the World Health Organisation.

If you are unable to get hold of a mask in time for Sunday, there will be masks available in the hall.

All personal protective equipment (PPE) such as a face covering or gloves, must be taken away with the child and not left in the building. Should your child need to take off any PPE during the session, it must be put straight into a bag or pocket and not placed on the floor, tables or chairs, even temporarily.

We will remind children about the new rules during our sessions.

### 3. Booking system/ drop off time

All children will need to be pre-booked into GKS. To book a space for your child please contact Nicola Cummings on;

Email: [Nicola.Cummings154@icloud.com](mailto:Nicola.Cummings154@icloud.com) / Mob: 07746 004069.

All adults attending the Sunday service are also required to book a place and will be given a time slot to arrive. If you are attending the Sunday service bring your child to the Upper Hall at the same time slot given to you by the church Steward.

If you are not attending the Sunday service and you are dropping your child off, please book a place with Nicola Cummings using the details above at your earliest convenience, and bring them for 9:50am.

Once you have booked a place for your child, we will presume we will see your child in GKS every week to save you re-booking. However, if your child is unable to attend please let Nicola Cummings know using the details above as this will help us with planning.

## 4. What happens when I arrive?

### a. Queuing

When you arrive at the Upper Hall, markers will indicate where your child(ren) should stand to maintain social distancing rules.

Parents will need to ensure that children over 11 observe social distancing measures whilst waiting to enter the Upper Hall, and parents and carers of children under 5 are required to queue with the children.

### b. Hand sanitation

When children enter the Upper Hall foyer they will be required to use the wall-mounted hand sanitiser. This is an important step in preventing transmission and a leader will assist younger children.

Once the hand sanitiser has been used, the child(ren) will be called into the hall by a **GKS** leader to ensure that social distancing is maintained as people enter the building.

### c. Social distancing

The legal requirement is that all reasonable measures are taken to ensure a distance of 2 meters is kept between any individual over 11 years. A risk assessment has been completed, and the control measures put in place to ensure that we remain COVID secure in all permitted church activities.

### d. Toilets

Toilet and baby changing facilities will be accessible throughout the session and will be cleaned after every use.

## e. Safeguarding/access to the hall

Under normal circumstances parents will not be permitted into the hall before, during or after the session while other children are in the hall.

The front doors will be left open but the inner doors to the hall will be locked once all children are in the hall. If you need to collect your child before the end of the session please knock the door and a leader will come to the door.

A minimum of 2 leaders will always be present during the session and all leaders have valid DBS certificates.

## 5. Should your child become ill during the session

If your child becomes unwell with COVID-19 symptoms, you will be contacted and asked to collect them. You are advised to follow the self-isolation guidance and to apply for a coronavirus test.

If you need clinical advice, you should go online to NHS 111 Wales (or call 111 if you don't have internet access). In an emergency, call 999 if they are seriously ill or injured or their life is at risk. They should not visit the GP, pharmacy, urgent care centre or a hospital.

Other people who may have been in contact with the child who has become unwell should wash their hands thoroughly after the interaction, but they do not need to take any other specific action unless they develop symptoms themselves. If they develop symptoms they should follow the self-isolation guidance and apply for a coronavirus test.

## 6. Leaving the Upper Hall/ pick up

At the end of the session *GKS* leaders will dismiss children from the hall once their parent or guardian arrives on the pavement. Children will not be permitted to leave until a parent or guardian is present.

Parents/guardians should collect their child(ren) as soon as the service has finished. For Parents/guardians not attending the service, please collect your child(ren) at 10:35am.

Parents and guardians are reminded to observe the social distancing requirements and you are asked not to gather on the pavements once you have collected your child(ren).

## 7. Requirements to notify if you become ill after attending

Should your child become ill with COVID-19 symptoms after attending *GKS*, please contact Nicola Cummings using the details below;

Email: [Nicola.cummings154@icloud.com](mailto:Nicola.cummings154@icloud.com)

Mob: 07746 004069

## 8. What if I've never been to GSK before?

New children and visitors are always welcome – if your child(ren) are interested in joining *GKS* please get in touch with Nicola on the details above to find out more.