

Crown Lane FMC Coronavirus social distancing seating plan

Since late March, the Church has been shut because of the Coronavirus pandemic. Churches are not yet able to return. However, plans need to be in place ready for a return to Church services, whenever that may be. The likelihood is that upon a return to Church, social distancing is going to play a big role and therefore plans upon a return to Church need to include this.

The Church can be split into four sections – The Sanctuary, First screened area, second screened area and the extension.

Seating:

The suggestion is that the front three sections (Sanctuary, First and second screened area) are used for those who are able to go out and about normally, albeit social distancing and haven't been asked to isolate by the Government, due to health or age.

The Pulpit is at least 2m from front row so there should be no need for a safety visor.

Following that, the suggestion is that the extension can be used for those of our congregation who have been asked to isolate due to health or age, which allows those who are isolating to come to Church, watch the service via the relay, but knowing that they are safe in the extension as they won't mix with other members of the congregation, being kept completely separate, whilst they know others around them have also been self-isolating and so shouldn't have Coronavirus.

Capacity:

The total capacity with the seats kept apart, social distancing is 117.

This includes 45 seats in the sanctuary, 40 seats in the screened areas and 32 seats in the extension.

Entrance and exit:

The entrance and exit are through the normal double doors. No other doors to be used to enter the building. The portable screens can be used to ensure that people can be directed into the sanctuary, so that people can't congregate as they enter the Church. People will queue up outside the Church (2m apart) and be filtered into the Church so that people are able to sit down, whilst socially distancing. People will be asked to sit in specific rows, to lessen the risk of any contact between those who aren't in families. Families will sit together.

For the extension entrance and exit, use of the extension door, which again, allows those in that section to keep separate from the rest of the Church. Nobody else from the Church is to enter this area to keep it safe for the vulnerable members.

In terms of leaving the Church, the most vulnerable will be asked to leave first, whilst the main Church is kept separate.

Those sat closest to the door will leave first. Once those sat in the extension have gone, the Church will empty, with those in the middle of the Church leaving first, before the rows in the screened areas emptying, before the rows in the sanctuary leaving. A diagram of this can be found overleaf, alongside a seating plan.

Stewarding:

There will be a steward outside the Church, filtering people in a safe way. There will be a steward inside the Church directing people where to sit, but again, they will be stood at a safe distance from people as they direct them. Any vulnerable members of the Church will be asked to wait in their cars until it is safe to direct them into the extension. However, if it is safe to direct them into the extension with limited risk of them being near other Church members, a steward will direct them in – staying socially distant and telling them where to sit.

Seating plan:

	Pulpit				Computer	Sanctuary				
4 seats (Row 1A)	2m gap	4 seats (Row 1B)	2m gap	3 seats (Row 1C)						
4 seats (Row 2A)	2m gap	4 seats (Row 2B)	2m gap	3 seats (Row 2C)						
4 seats (Row 3A)	2m gap	4 seats (Row 3B)	2m gap	3 seats (Row 3C)						
Sound desk	2m gap	4 seats (Row 4B)	2m gap	Entrance/ Exit						
	2m gap to screens									
4 seats (Row 5A)	2m gap	4 seats (Row 5B)	2m gap	2 seats (Row 5C)	First screened area					
4 seats (Row 6A)	2m gap	4 seats (Row 6B)	2m gap	2 seats (Row 6C)						
4 seats (Row 7A)	2m gap	4 Seats (Row 7B)	2m gap	2 seats (Row 7C)	Second screened area					
4 seats (Row 8A)	2m gap	4 seats (Row 8B)	2m gap	2 seats (Row 8C)						
2 seats 1A	2m gap	2 seats 1B	2m gap	2 seats 1C	2m gap	2 seats 1D	2m gap			
2 seats 2A	2m gap	2 seats 2B	2m gap	2 seats 2C	2m gap	2 seats 2D	2m gap	Entrance /exit		
2 seats 3A	2m gap	2 seats 3B	2m gap	2 seats 3C	2m gap	2 seats 3D	2m gap			

Entrance and exit sequence:

Fill rows in this order: 1A, 1B, 1C, 2A, 2B, 2C, 3A, 3B, 3C, 8A, 8B, 8C, 7A, 7B, 7C, 6A, 6B, 6C, 5A, 5B, 5C, 4B.

Emptying rows: 4B, 5C, 5B, 5A, 6C, 6B, 6A, 7C, 7B, 7A, 8C, 8B, 8A, 3C, 3B, 3A, 2C, 2B, 2A, 1C, 1B, 1C.

Extension seating:

Fill farthest rows first – 1A, 2A, 3A, 1B, 2B, 3B, 1C, 2C, 3C, 1D, 3D, 2D

Empty closest rows to the door first – 2D, 1D, 3D, 2C, 1C, 3C, 2B, 1B, 3B, 2A, 1A, 3A

For entering the Church, those sitting in Row A 1 – 3, they would enter through the doors, head towards the desk and down the left aisle. Those sitting in Row B 1-3, they would enter through the doors, and down the right aisle. Those sitting in Row C 1-3, would enter through the doors and walk down the far-right aisle – by the wall (hence why this area only three seats). This allows for each row to have its own aisle and thus limit people coming into contact with one another.

Those sitting in the screen areas would enter in a similar fashion. Those sitting in rows A 5-8, would walk towards the desk and then up the left aisle. Those in row B 5-8 would enter and walk up through the right aisle, as would those in rows C 5-8.