

Junior Church and Tots guidelines (April 2021)

We are so pleased to be restarting Junior Church and Tots for our children on a Sunday. There are many guidelines to follow to ensure these groups run safely and happily. The groups will therefore look a bit different, but our hope and aim is that they are still fun places for our children to learn more about the Lord Jesus, try different activities and enjoy each other's company.

Below is a summary of what to expect:

- We will be altogether in church for the first 5-10 minutes of the service before the groups start in the church hall.
- Parents can either drop their child off in the relevant group and return to the main service, or stay with their child in the group. (N.B. Tots is for 0-4s, Junior Church for 5-11s).
- On the doors of both the church and the church hall will be the church's QR code for NHS Track & Trace. Please scan this as you enter, or give your details to the person on the door with a clipboard. Even if you intend on going back into the service and leaving your child in Junior Church or Tots, we need your details.
- As you enter the room there will be some hand sanitiser for parents and children to use.
- All adults must be socially distanced in the room. Individual seats will be laid out in the room for parents/carers to use. The children do not need to be socially distanced from each other although we will try to avoid activities which involve too much close contact.
- It is not a requirement for masks to be worn in children's groups such as this (even by adults), so if parents are staying in the group with their child and would feel more comfortable without a mask, they are allowed to remove it. We ask that people put masks back on when they leave the room.
- Windows will be open to ensure good ventilation. The heating will also be on but parents and children are encouraged to wrap up warm!
- Singing is allowed in the groups, but by no more than 6 adults so you will be instructed if you can join in!
- In Tots, we can give parents a single foam mat if required, however please be aware that we can't provide playmats or baby bouncers.
- If you leave your child in their group and return to the service, please come and collect them as soon as the service is over.
- A full risk assessment has been undertaken for these groups and appropriate cleaning will take place before and after.
- The space available means that Tots is limited to 7 adults (and 10 children); Junior Church is limited to 12 adults and children in total.

Sources of information:

- National Youth Agency – 'Managing Youth Sector Activities and Spaces During COVID-19' (v5.2)
- Church of England
- Early Years Alliance