

## Restarting Sunday School and Pathfinders in April

We are thrilled that from Easter Day we are going to be able to begin meeting in person again at church. On 4<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> April we will be holding Worship Together Services for the whole family at 9:15am, 11am and 4pm. Then when the Government allows "Step 2" to begin we expect that from **18<sup>th</sup> April** we are going to be able to run Sunday School in person again at our **9:15am, 11am and 4pm** services. We have really missed seeing your children over the last few months and we hope that many of you will be able to return to our church services and Sunday School at St Mary's. We will also be **restarting an in-person provision for Pathfinders at our 9:15am and 4pm services**. Simon will be in touch about the specifics nearer the time.

The beginning of our services will have the same format as usual, before the children are encouraged to go to their groups. Booking will continue to be essential for anyone coming to a service. When booking, you will now be asked for the ages/school year of your children so that we can allocate them to a group/bubble which they will be part of each week. Bookings are done via [www.stmarysmaidenhead.org/servicebooking](http://www.stmarysmaidenhead.org/servicebooking).

We are aware that Social Distancing Rules still need to be complied with and so Sunday School will continue to look a little different for the next few months. We only have three rooms which are large enough to accommodate children safely and as only 15 children in each age group will be allowed at any service, it will be a case of booking in early. We will be running two or three groups for the children at each service.

Parents of the children aged 2 and under will be very welcome to use the Lower Lounge with their children. The service will be relayed there, and you are able to bring your own books and toys for your children. We are so sorry that under the current regulations it is still not possible to leave your child there or use the church's resources, but we are constantly reviewing what we are allowed to do and we hope to be able to start a crèche again soon.

### Sunday School Groups

- Parents can either send their child to the group independently or can drop their children off at the correct room, but they are not allowed to enter the room; to collect their children at the end of the service, they must wait in the driveway
- Everyone will sanitise their hands at the dispenser on entering and leaving the room
- Adult teachers and helpers will wear masks unless they are teaching from the front
- The children will stay seated at tables 2m distance from each other
- They will watch Sunday School Online for their teaching and do extra games and activities suitable for their age
- **The children will need to bring their own resources – pencils/crayons/scissors/glue stick/drink**
- Please do not bring your child to Sunday School if they display symptoms of coronavirus
- Children will be expected to adhere to social distancing rules which will be clearly explained to them by their leaders

**This practice will continue until Social Distancing measures are removed and we can go back to normal!**

**For those not able to attend in person on any given week, and from any service, then we will be continuing our current practice of "live Sunday School" on Zoom at 9:15am. We would love your children to join in with this as this will help them follow the teaching for when they are able to join us.**

If you have any queries, then please do contact us.

Best wishes,

Kate Wheatley, Nick McDonald and Simon Eves.