



# St Oswald's Community

## **Working together to stay safe**

It is such a joy to be able to welcome you to St Oswald's and we pray that your stay with us will be restorative and restful, and that you'll have the opportunity to join in with the life of the Community, 'coming home to God, others, ourselves and creation'. We're excited to be able to welcome guests here without restrictions in place, trusting that this will be a significant step nearer to the vision of hospitality and welcome we have for St Oswald's. However, we are mindful that the virus is still very much at large and so with that in mind we still need to be vigilant and put some measures in place to keep both our guests and ourselves as safe as possible.

### **Before Visiting**

On the day before or the morning of your visit, we will ask you to complete a pre-visit declaration to confirm you are feeling well, haven't been in contact with others at higher risk of infection and to give us details for Test & Trace. We will be doing this until August 16<sup>th</sup> 2021 when we'll be reviewing this in the light of national changes to test and trace. The community are all fully vaccinated and will be taking lateral flow tests twice a week. We'd certainly prefer our guests to also be vaccinated and it would be great if you were able to do a lateral flow test prior to your visit. However, neither of these are a condition of visiting us and we won't be asking your vaccination or test status.

### **General Hygiene**

These guidelines will all be very familiar but are important for us all to remember:

- Regular, thorough hand washing
- There are a number of hand sanitiser points as you come into and move around the building - please use these frequently.
- We are regularly using a viricidal cleaner on common contact surfaces throughout the building.
- We will also be leaving more windows open in public spaces where appropriate.

### **Physical Distancing**

From July 19<sup>th</sup> we will no longer be require to keep a physical distance from those in other households. There will no longer be a rule of six operating in our lounges, neither will there be allocated seating in the dining room or Chapel. However, we do ask that consideration is given to guests who may be feeling particularly anxious or vulnerable about the relaxation of restrictions and who may prefer to keep some physical distance from others.

## Chapel

The community hold a rhythm of prayer 3 times a day and you are most welcome to come and be part of that. We pray at 9am, 12:30pm & 5pm.

There is no longer the legal requirement to wear a mask indoors and so this will not be a requirement of our guests. However, we are mindful that, depending on the numbers of guests, the Chapel may become a little crowded with seats being quite close to one another. The community are therefore going to continue wearing masks in the Chapel (with the exception of the person leading) and we strongly encourage our guests to do the same, particularly when guest numbers are higher.

## Bedrooms/Bathrooms

As the main house only has 8 bedrooms, the numbers of catered guests will be reasonably limited, with a 'full-house' maximum capacity of 11 guests at any one time. We have one bathroom, two shower rooms and four toilets available for our guests, and so whilst we will be asking guests to share facilities from July 19th onwards, we hope there will be sufficient options for you. We will clean all the shared toilets/sinks daily and will change the shared hand towels.

## Dining Room

Our dining room is a good size and has 2 very large tables. We will no longer be requiring guests to sit in households or in allocated seating in the dining room but, where possible, we plan on seating a maximum of 6 guests per table to allow seats to be comfortably spaced. There will be sanitiser on the dining tables and also on any self-service tables so that guests can sanitise their hands prior to using serving utensils or handling common items. Please ask us if you'd feel more comfortable being given a separate serving spoon.

Meals are as follows:

**Breakfast:** A simple self-service breakfast is available from 8:15-9am. If you'd like porridge with your breakfast, please order this by the menu board the evening before.

**Lunch:** You are welcome to order a packed lunch (please sign up by the menu board the evening before). For those eating in, lunch is served at 1pm.

**Dinner:** Please gather at 6pm. Where we are cooking 2 food options (e.g., a vegetarian and a meat dish) we'll usually give you the option of opting for the meal of your choice. This can be indicated on a sign-up sheet by the menu board the night before.

**Main Lounge/Small Lounge** – These rooms are available for your use throughout your stay. Whilst we'll no longer be bound by the rule of six from Monday 19th July onwards, we ask that guests use their judgement when a room feels over-crowded.

**Library/Art Room** – You are most welcome to make use of our Library and Art Room (the art room is near Hillside Cottage – please ask if you require directions!). Both rooms are still a 'work in progress' but you are most welcome to make us of these lovely spaces.

**Summer House/Hilda Room/Cockpit** – These outdoor ‘sun’ rooms are available for use by all of our guests, including those who are self-catering.

If you would like more detailed information, including what will happen if you, or another guest or community member develop COVID-19 symptoms while you are here, there is a risk assessment on our website that is divided into different sections. If you have any questions before you arrive, do feel free to get in touch or you can ask a member of the community when you’re here. We’re so looking forward to welcoming you to St Oswald’s!



*\* Adapted from Scargill Movement’s ‘Taking Care of Each Other’ document. June 2021*

*Updated July 13<sup>th</sup> 2021 MH*