



Church Cleaning Policy

All Saints' Church, Walsoken

Please refer to Document S&S_Doc_001 for all Safeguarding and Social requirements.

Specific Policy

This Safeguarding & Social (S&S) sub-policy controls cleaning activities at church.

Introduction

Maintaining cleanliness in a church is crucial for creating a welcoming and safe environment for the congregation and visitors. A clean church not only enhances the spiritual experience but also promotes good health and safety. This ensures that our church remains well-maintained and tidy, it's important to have a cleaning policy.

Spiritual and Practical Reasons for Church Cleanliness

Cleanliness in a church is not solely a practical matter a clean church enables worshippers to focus on their spiritual practices without distractions or discomfort. Additionally, a well-maintained church enhances the overall beauty of the space, creating an atmosphere conducive to prayer and meditation. The sight of polished pews, clean stained glass windows, and spotless altars can uplift spirits and inspire a sense of awe and reverence.

Health and Safety Considerations in Church Cleaning

When developing our church cleaning policy, it was crucial to prioritise health and safety. A clean environment helps prevent the spread of germs and infections, especially in areas prone to gatherings and high traffic. Regular cleaning and disinfection or cleaning of floors, surfaces, pews, kitchen and toilet are key to maintaining cleanliness. By implementing proper cleaning protocols, we can ensure that our church remains a safe place for all worshippers and visitors.

Additionally, addressing potential safety hazards such as slippery floors, loose carpets, or damaged furniture is vital to ensure the well-being of worshippers and visitors. These are more easily seen when cleaning. By prioritising health and safety in our church cleaning efforts, we demonstrate our commitment to the physical well-being of our congregation and visitors.

Reference Documents

The Health and Safety at Work Act 1974

The Food Safety and Hygiene (England) Regulations 2013

Procedure

Identified Key Areas for Regular Cleaning

The church key areas that require regular cleaning have been identified as in Diagram 1. This includes entrances, worship spaces, hallways, rest areas, refreshment areas and meeting areas. Each church area has been broken down into specific cleaning tasks. See Form 1.

Special Cleaning Considerations for Sacred Spaces

While all areas of the church require attention, sacred spaces deserve special care. These spaces often include the altar, pulpit, pews, and religious artifacts. We ensure that these areas are cleaned with cleaning products that will not damage the surfaces or fragile objects. We take extra care to dust intricately carved woodwork or delicate stained glass windows. If we are unsure about the appropriate cleaning methods, we'll consult with professionals who specialise in preserving sacred spaces.

Furthermore, it is beneficial to involve members of the congregation in some cleaning of sacred spaces. This not only fosters a sense of community and ownership but also allows individuals to contribute to the upkeep of their place of worship. WE consider organising cleaning days or assigning specific tasks to different groups within the church, encouraging participation and shared responsibility.

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Regular Inspections

Church cleanliness is assessed as part to the Area risk assessment process see H&S_Doc_003

Encouraging Congregation Participation in Cleanliness

We promote a culture of cleanliness within our congregation by encouraging participation in the cleaning process. We let the congregation know about the importance of maintaining a clean church environment. We often come together to perform deep cleaning tasks or tackle larger cleaning projects. By involving the congregation, we foster a sense of ownership and shared responsibility, ensuring the ongoing cleanliness of our church.

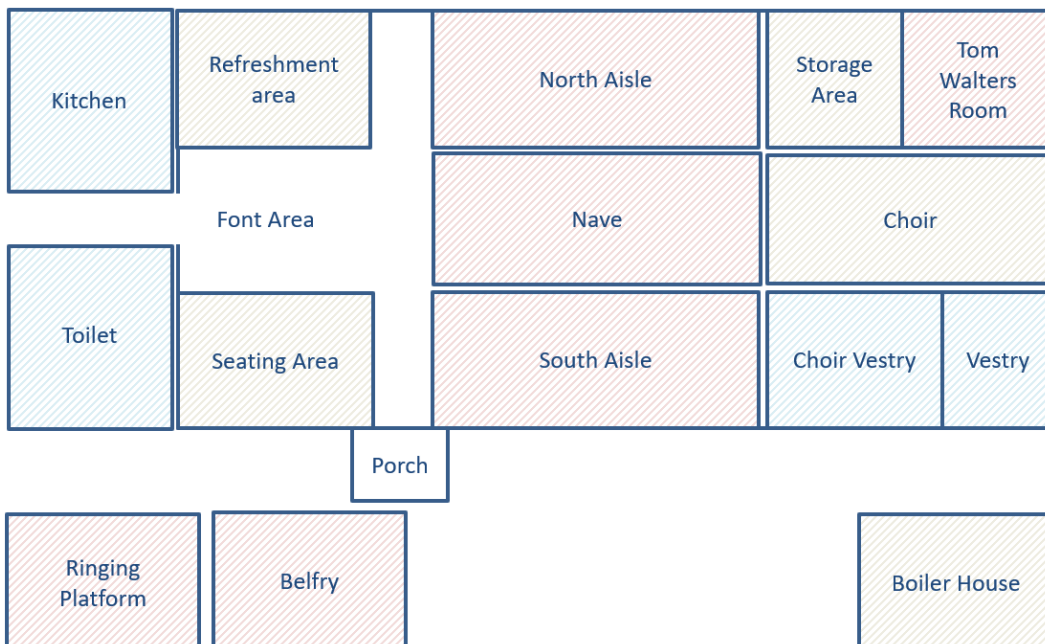
Forms

Form 1. Church Cleaning Tasks

All Saints' Church, Walsoken		
Church Cleaning Tasks		
Cleaning Area	Frequency	Cleaning Tasks
Tom Walters Room	X Weeks	XXXXXXXXXX
Storage Area	X Weeks	XXXXXXXXXX
Choir	X Weeks	XXXXXXXXXX

Diagrams

Diagram 1. Church Areas to be Cleaned



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Appendices

None

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