

Bethany Church Risk Assessments

Date: 21st May 2026

Assessed by: Matt Rich Signature: _____ Review Date: _____

Reviewed by: _____ Signature: _____ Position: _____ Date: _____

Location: Bethany Church

Who might be harmed: Congregation, leaders, visitors

PROBABILITY	
5	Almost Certain - Very High
4	Probable - High
3	50/50 - Medium
2	Improbable - Low
1	Almost impossible - Very Low

SEVERITY	
5	Fatality - Very High
4	High Severity
3	Medium Severity
2	Low Severity
1	Insignificant - Very Low Severity

SEVERITY	5	5	10	15	20	25
	4	4	8	12	16	20
	3	3	6	9	12	15
	2	2	4	6	8	10
	1	1	2	3	4	5
		1	2	3	4	5
PROBABILITY						

RISK	
1-4	Low
5-9	Medium
10-15	High
16-25	Very High

Potential Hazard	Severity	Probability	Risk	Actions to mitigate risk	Mitigated Probability	Mitigated Risk
Trips 1. Worn or unfixed carpet edges 2. Trailing wires, cables or leads 3. Worn or uneven steps or stairs 4. Poor lighting 5. Missing or defective handrails 6. Variations in the level of floors or ramps 7. Restricted access including doorway widths	1	3	3	* Inspect carpet edges every 6 months * Use cable tidies where cables cross walkway * Run wires, cables and leads close to walls * Ensure lights are on and faulty bulbs replaced ASAP * Inspect stairs, steps and handrails every 6 months * Use appropriate signage	2	2

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Potential Hazard	Severity	Probability	Risk	Actions to mitigate risk	Mitigated Probability	Mitigated Risk
Slips 1. Smooth floor surface 2. Wet mopping floors 3. Wet floors from leaks 4. Spillage of food or drink 5. Rainwater, snow, mud brought in on shoes	1	3	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Mop floors when others not present * Wipe up spills as soon as they are noticed * Undertake repairs as soon as possible * Use "Wet Floor" sign when spills occur and during clean up * Use suitable mats at entrances to wipe shoes 	2	2
Falls From Heights 1. Changing lightbulbs 2. Cleaning or decorating 3. Putting up decorations or displays 4. Accessing the roof gutter through the roof-light 5. Using step-ladders generally 6. Damaged ladders, step-ladders	4	3	12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Inspect equipment for damage before using * Use equipment safely and within intended use * Do not use ladders when dizzy or if experienced dizziness recently * Do not use ladders when physically inappropriate for the individual * Access roof gutter or cellar only when someone else is present * Work at heights to be supervised by another whenever possible 	2	8
Fires 1. Accumulation of combustable waste 2. Accumulation of flammable materials 3. Blocked or obstructed exit routes 4. Locked escape doors 5. Portable heaters 6. Kitchen fire 7. Candles 8. Smoking	4	2	8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Remove waste weekly or fortnightly as appropriate * Remove large quantities of combustable waste ASAP after use * Store flammable materials away from sources of heat or ignition * Ensure exit routes are clear at all times * Ensure fire escapes open easily as part of opening up procedure * Do not use unsupervised candles during services * Do not smoking in the building * Do not switch on portable heaters in unoccupied rooms * Check fire extinguishers monthly * Test smoke detector weekly 	1	4
Electrical Fires 1. Bulky or unwieldy furniture 2. Heavy audio-visual or computer equipment 3. General rubbish that may include breakages 4. Storage of heavy materials above head height	4	2	8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Switch off fan heaters (front door / kitchen) before vacating building * Switch off all lights before vacating building * Switch off electrical equipment at sockets (except fridge & freezer) * Faulty equipment to be reported to a responsible person * Disconnect faulty equipment and attach a "Do Not Use" label 	1	4

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Manual Handling - lifting / carrying 1. Bulky or unwieldy furniture 2. Heavy audio-visual or computer equipment 3. General rubbish that may include breakages 4. Storage of heavy materials above head height	3	4	12	* Ensure those lifting can comply with manual handling procedures * Those with pre-existing injuries and aches should be extra careful * Store heavy containers lower down below head height	2	6
Gas 1. Defective or poorly maintained gas boiler or pipework 2. Gas leak detected or suspected	4	2	6	* Boiler to be serviced and inspected annually * Do not switch on/off lights or electrical equipment * Report immediately using the emergency phone number on boiler	1	4
Electricity 1. Faulty or damaged fixed wiring 2. Faulty, damaged portable electrical equipment 3. Unauthorised portable electrical equipment 4. Faulty or damaged extension cables	4	2	8	* Inspect fixed wiring in the church premises every 5 years * PAT test electrical equipment every 3 years * Visually inspection electric equipment before use * Use of "DO NOT USE" labels * Do not bring into the building untested equipment over 3 years old	1	4
Food Preparation 1. Defective cooking equipment 2. Poorly positioned hot water boiler or coffee machine 3. Unclean food preparation areas 4. Food and liquids "off" or out-of-date 5. Pathogens in liquids 6. Poor hygiene 7. Poor food storage 8. Food contamination 9. Hot food or hot drinks spilt on to someone 10. Communion preparation	3	3	9	* Visually check equipment before use * Report faults immediately and attach "DO NOT USE" labels * Clean surfaces with appropriate cleaning products * Drinks / Refreshments / Food can be prepared and served by those trained by someone with a level 2 Food Safety & Hygiene certificate * Regularly check fridge temperature with a thermometer * Use boiled water for tea and coffee, don't serve lukewarm drinks * Food and drinks should only be served by those physically capable * All unused poured drinks, including communion, to be poured away * All single use communion cups to be discarded after one use * Full details in the Food Hygiene Policy	2	6

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Work Equipment 1. Defective or poorly maintained powered equipment 2. Defective or poorly maintained tools 3. Inexperienced operator	3	3	9	* Inspect tools and equipment before use * Attach "DO NOT USE" labels to any damaged tools or remove them from the premises * Use experienced operators or others under supervision	2	6
Glazing 1. Most of the building is double glazed - very low risk 2. Non-safety single glazed windows	4	2	8	* Give clear guidance about ball games & running where there is single glazed units	1	4
Hazardous Substances 1. Bleach 2. Cleaning products 3. Paints	4	4	16	* No bleach to be used on the premises * Products to be kept in cupboards out of the reach of children * Solvent-based paints only to be used in well ventilated areas * All products to be clearly labelled	2	8
External Trips and Slips 1. Damaged footpath or edging 2. Poor lighting 3. Growth of moss or algae on paths 4. Wet leaves on paths 5. Ice on the paths	3	2	6	* Regularly inspect outside areas * Complete repairs ASAP * Ensure lights are switched on when necessary * Sweep and remove fallen leaves * Spread salt and / or grit after snow or ice	1	3
Trees and Bushes 1. Damaged trees or bushes with loose branches 2. Diseased trees or bushes 3. Brambles and stinging nettles	2	2	4	* Visually inspection trees and bushes regularly * Promptly remove brambles and stinging nettles	1	2

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Specific to Church Walks 1. Bad weather (including extreme temperatures) - risk of illness & injury - risk of group being stranded	3	3	9	* Check the weather forecast and cancel if necessary * Advise walkers to bring suitable clothing / items for the conditions	2	6
Specific to Church Walks 1. Busy Roads - risk of vehicle collision	5	3	15	* Keep time walking along busy roads to a minimum * Find suitable safe crossing places	1	5
Specific to Church Walks 1. Steep, slippery or muddy sections - risk of slips and trips	3	3	9	* Check for muddy/slippy sections and adapt the route if necessary * Advise walkers to bring suitable footwear for the conditions	2	6
Specific to Church Walks 1. Livestock - risk of injury - risk of property damage if livestock escape	4	2	8	* Cross fields with livestock calmly & quietly, keeping together * Be prepared to divert around livestock if necessary * Follow the Countryside Code - leaving gates as you find them	1	4
Specific to Church Walks 1. Cliff or sheer drops - risk of falls	5	3	15	* Check paths are suitable for a group to use safely * Follow any local signs and advise walkers to keep away from the edge	1	5

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Specific to Lego Builders 1. Refreshments - allergies - injury from hot drinks	4	3	12	* Refreshments provided for adults and children with adult permission * Parents / carers can bring their own refreshments for their children * Parents are responsible for the hot drinks taken near their children * Food is purchased wrapped, in-date, and with ingredients listed	1	4
Specific to Lego Builders 1. Supervision of children	3	3	9	* Children remain the responsibility of the adult who attends with them * Instructions reminding about parent responsibility on promotional info, on websites, and in emails * General reminders of not running or throwing lego etc will be given when appropriate by the church team in overall charge of the event * Minimum of 2 adults assigned to be in overall charge	1	3
Specific to Lego Builders 1. Evacuation 2. Cancellations	4	1	4	* A sign-in sheet enables a record of who is in attendance * Contact details are taken when new unregistered people attend	1	4
Specific to Lego Builders 1. Risk of injury	2	4	8	* Any broken lego is discarded immediately * Walkways are kept clear as much as is reasonably possible * Parents are reminded of their supervisory role	1	2

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Specific to Bethany Social Upstairs 1. Refreshments - allergies - injury from hot drinks	4	2	8	* Refreshments provided for adults and children with adult permission * Parents / carers can bring their own refreshments for their children * Parents are responsible for the hot drinks taken near their children * Food is purchased wrapped, in-date, and with ingredients listed	1	4
Specific to Bethany Social Upstairs 1. Supervision of children	3	3	9	* Children remain the responsibility of the adult who attends with them * General reminders of not running or throwing things will be given when appropriate by those in overall charge of the event	1	3
Specific to Bethany Social Upstairs 1. Instructions about how to use / play the activity 2. Misuse of equipment	4	1	4	* Watching out for those who don't know how to play or use equipment * Giving clear guidance about how to play the game or activity * Giving clear guidance about correct use of equipment	1	4
Specific to Bethany Social Upstairs 1. Risk of injury	2	4	8	* Any broken equipment is removed immediately, fixed or disposed of * Walkways & space between activities kept clear as much as possible	1	2

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Specific to outside market-type stall 1. Setting up & pulling down - vehicles - weather - equipment - manual handling	4	3	12	* Follow organisers timings to keep on site vehicles to a minimum * Only set up the gazebo when the weather is safe and suitable to * Check all equipment for signs of damage and serious wear & tare * Follow general handling policy and make multiple trips	1	4
Specific to outside market-type stall 1. Public disorder / abuse	4	2	8	* Remain calm and polite at all times to diffuse conflict * Offer to make a note of any complaints to pass on to the Trustees * Make organisers emergency contact details available at all times	1	4
Specific to outside market-type stall 1. Wellbeing of workers	2	2	4	* Encourage clothing suitable for the environment to be worn * Arrange refreshment and comfort breaks	1	2
Specific to outside market-type stall 1. Trips & slips	4	2	8	* Keep the stall tidy * Where possible keep extra supplies in the car or church until needed * Clean up spills as soon as they happen	1	4