

Terms and Conditions for Booking and Hire of All Saints Hall /Thorpe Room
In accordance with Government Guidelines for Covid 19

Thank you for booking the All Saints Church Hall / Thorpe room. Please read the following conditions of hire thoroughly. Failure to comply could result in all or part of your deposit being withheld, or any future bookings taken to the Church Council.

You are requested to date and sign the conditions at the end of the document and return to the Hall Bookings Manager on whitstablehall@gmail.com

All Saints Church Hall – “the Hall”

Hall Bookings Manager – Kirsty McNicol - whitstablehall@gmail.com or text 07842 381269

1. Covid-19 Restrictions

All hirers must ensure that the current government guidelines concerning Covid are always followed.

Additionally, please keep the hall well ventilated to help reduce the transmission of Covid-19.

2. General

1. Both Hall and Nursery car parks have an automatic numberplate recognition system. To avoid a parking charge the numberplate must be registered on the device in the hall. The hirer should ensure that all drivers enter their numberplates on arriving at the hall. Cars dropping children or adults off do not need to register unless they return within 30 minutes.
2. Please ensure that when you book the hall you adhere to your booking time. For example, if you book the hall from 9am – 10am do not arrive in the hall before 9 am and vacate the hall at 10 am.
3. **Any use of Sellotape, blue-tack or other similar material on any walls, doors, windows, or floors, is strictly not permitted and you will be liable for any repair or redecoration costs.** Also, owing to previous damage to our hall floor we regret the use of paints and oils in painting classes or associated activities is not permitted in either the Hall or Thorpe Room. We are now unable to host such groups.
4. **Children's Parties – bouncy castles and bubble houses are permitted providing a professional organization with public liability insurance is responsible for them on the day both setting up, during the activity and afterwards and providing a full risk assessment is in place. It is your duty to ensure these are all in place. See item 6.10 for more information.**
5. The hire of the hall does not include the use of the Thorpe Room. The Thorpe Room is hired out separately but only if the main hall is not in use. Access to the disabled toilet is via the Thorpe room.
If you need the use of both rooms, please enquire of availability when booking.
Hall hire does not include use of gardens, outside areas or equipment outside the hall.
6. Hall hire does not guarantee car-parking availability.
7. The hall is heated between the months of October and April. If the temperature needs adjusting to meet your requirements, adjust the temperature using the thermostat to the left of the Thorpe Room entrance. Please do not turn off radiators. Windows and doors (providing the latter does not contravene your risk assessment) can be opened to enable the hall to cool down if necessary but only after turning the thermostat down. Please reset the thermostat to the level it was originally at when you arrived before leaving the hall.

8. The P.A. System is not available for external hirers except by prior arrangement. As training is required to use our P. A System as it is quite complex we encourage you to bring your own portable P.A. system where possible.
9. The hall has multiple hirers; therefore, each individual hirer must leave the hall in a good, tidy and clean condition. If you do not find the hall in a good condition on your arrival, please inform the Hall Bookings Manager.
10. When you vacate the hall, please ensure all doors are locked, switch off all lights (interior and exterior). Also check that water boilers/heaters in the kitchen and toilets are switched off. If you are using the Thorpe Room, please ensure that the wall heaters are switched off.
11. The hall is used for Church events and is also a designated emergency centre and a polling station. We will notify you of any known conflict at time of booking but reserve the right to cancel bookings on the occasion of an unpredicted urgent event. Your booking will be confirmed three months ahead of time. If there is a conflict of interest over booking dates with church activities, the church will always have priority on bookings.
12. All regular long-term hirers of the Hall are required to undertake a Risk Assessment in accordance with Government Guidelines. It is your responsibility to produce this Risk Assessment and while we do not need to see or approve it, your booking arrangement with us confirms an acceptance of our Terms and Conditions which includes your obligation that that you have such a Risk Assessment in place.

If assistance is required, please contact the Hall Bookings Manager in the first instance who can supply a template document to help you draw up a Risk Assessment.

3. Financial Information

1. A booking acknowledgement will be sent to you as soon as your booking is made. Please check the times and dates are correct and read the terms and conditions of hire. If there are any discrepancies, please contact the Hall Bookings Manager.
2. If you are booking on a regular basis, please read the Conditions of Hire or link on the booking email. Please ensure all conditions are met as failure to comply could result in future bookings being cancelled by the Church Council.
3. Your booking cannot be completed until you confirm the date that you accept the terms and conditions of hire.
4. For parties and one-off hires there is a £50.00 deposit payable. If any of the conditions of hire are not met or there are damages to the hall, all or part of the £50.00 will not be returned to you; if any damages exceed this amount, you will be responsible for paying the excess.

5. If your hire is for a single occasion and booked more than one month before your hire date, then we require 50% of your hire fee on receipt of an invoice. If you cancel your booking, this money will not be refunded, as we have a 50% cancellation fee policy.
6. The balance of your hire charge and if applicable, the £50.00 damages deposit should arrive with us no later than two weeks prior to your hire. If you wish to pay the balance of your hire charge and deposit by cash, please let the Hall Bookings Manager know.
7. If you book the hall close to the hire date you will need to pay both the deposit and the whole of your hire charge on receipt of an invoice. If cash, then the Hall Bookings Manager will arrange to accept this at the Church office.
8. If conditions of hire are met, your deposit will be returned to you as soon as possible after your hire; we do not refund deposits by cash.

4. Keys & Security

1. A key will be issued to you for your hire (please make sure you contact the Hall Bookings Manager at least a week before your hire date to arrange to collect the key).
2. The hall is not manned on a full-time basis; it is your responsibility to make sure when leaving that the main door and fire exits are locked, and all windows are shut and secured.
3. Once the main door is locked, the key should be put back into the plastic wallet provided and posted through the church office letterbox on the wall situated to the right of the hall doors.

5. Cleanliness & Use of Kitchen, Hall, Stage and Toilets

1. After use the hall, kitchen, stage and toilets MUST be left in a clean and tidy condition, or your deposit will not be returned. Chairs should be stacked 10 high along the wall facing the entrance and the floors swept. Any spillages must be mopped up. The brooms, dustpan and brush, mop and bucket are kept in the broom cupboard in the toilet block.
2. Recycling bins are located by the external office door at the back of the hall. Clean glass, plastic and tins should be put in the blue bin and paper in the red bin. **ALL OTHER RUBBISH MUST BE TAKEN HOME WITH YOU AFTER YOUR HIRE; THE CHURCH DOES NOT HAVE THE FACILITIES TO DISPOSE OF PRIVATE HIRERS' RUBBISH.**
3. There are baby-changing facilities in the ladies' toilet. You should find a mat, nappy sacks and antibacterial wipes which you and your guests are welcome to use. **MAKE SURE SOILED NAPPIES ARE TAKEN HOME AND NOT PUT IN THE WASTE BINS.**
4. Please supply your own tea towels and cloths and take them home with you after your hire. (Any tea towels and dish clothes in the kitchen are for the sole use of the church).
5. There is a separate hand-washing sink in the kitchen, which must not be used for other purposes. The switch for the water heater that feeds the sinks is situated under the sink on the left-hand side. This should be turned on 30 minutes before hot water is needed and must be switched off after use.

6. The constant feed hot water boiler is situated in the kitchen. This will need to be switched on at the wall 30 minutes before it is needed. Please ensure it is switched off after use. Be aware that this supplies BOILING water.
7. The location of crockery etc. is indicated on / inside the cupboards – items should always be returned to the indicated position after use. This fridge/freezer is emptied and cleaned on a Monday – any contents will be disposed of unless prior arrangements are made.
8. **The cooker is only available for use with prior permission, at a charge of £10.**
9. Private hirers may use any available space in the fridge/freezer. However, all items must be removed when the hall is vacated.
10. **The dishwashers are not for the use of private hirers.**

6. Legal & Safety

1. There is a defibrillator that may be used if needed situated outside the hall in a yellow box. If you need to use the defibrillator, please phone for the password and follow instructions given. If the defibrillator has been used, please inform a churchwarden as soon as possible.
2. The hall is approximately 18m * 9.7m (175sqm).

We have found that if the hall is being used for wine and wisdoms, etc. where the seats are grouped together rather than in rows, the maximum people comfortably seated is 96 on 12 tables of 8 people per table. When arranging tables / seating and to comply with fire regulations, please ensure that your layout allows easy access and clear paths to both fire exits.

3. All Church buildings are strictly Non-smoking.
4. The posting of posters advertising any event held on All Saints premises is not permitted as this could result in prosecution by Canterbury City Council.
5. If you wish to sell alcohol you must apply for a licence from Canterbury Council at least six weeks in advance of your hire date, (a copy of which is to be sent to the hall bookings secretary when received). This includes charitable events. Apart from an obvious sale (for example, from the kitchen hatch at £1 per glass of wine), the law encompasses a “disguised sale” (e.g. a ticket to an event that includes any alcohol, offering wine free but requiring a donation, or raffles and tombola with only alcohol as prizes). This law also covers ‘Wine and Wisdoms’.
6. Any government guidelines in place at the time of the booked event, that relate to community halls, should be complied with.
7. Selling alcohol without a licence carries a penalty of up to £2,500 and six-months imprisonment.
8. The Hall is licenced for use from 9am until 10.30pm Monday to Sunday. However, as we are situated in a residential area all music must cease by 10pm at the latest on

Saturdays, and 9pm on other days.

9. If you are hiring just the Thorpe Room, this hire does not include the use of main hall, main kitchen, or main toilets. The Thorpe Room is part of the All Saints Hall complex. If booked on its own it does have the facilities and access for disabled persons.
10. The DCC, its agents and servants shall not be liable to the user or to any person using or entering the Hall/Room(s) for personal injury or for damage to, loss or theft of any property brought into the Hall/Room(s) however it may be caused, unless caused by negligence on the part of the DCC. The user shall indemnify the DCC, its officers, agents and servants against all claims made by, and liability to, any person in respect of such damage, loss or theft.
11. **SAFEGUARDING:** Any use of the premises which involves children or vulnerable adults requires the hirer to follow recommended policy and practice with respect to safeguarding, including ensuring any staff or volunteers are safely recruited and trained as appropriate. It is the hirer's responsibility to ensure they are familiar with government legislation and guidance with respect to safeguarding and you should not proceed with your booking if you are not able to comply with this guidance.
12. If the hiring involves the attendance of children and young persons under the age of 18 or Vulnerable Adults at the premises, the Hirer confirms that there will be in place an appropriate Child and/or Adult Protection Procedure. The Hirer agrees to ensure that all adults present on the premises are aware of these Procedures and abide by them.
13. The Hirer confirms that, when necessary, under the terms of Child and/or Adult Protection Procedures, appropriate Criminal Records checks from the Disclosure and Barring Service will be carried out in respect of persons involved with children, young people or vulnerable adults on the premises during the hiring.

7. Emergencies and Equipment

1. All accidents must be recorded in the accident book, which is located together with a first aid kit and fire blanket to the right of the cooker in the kitchen. To ensure data protection the completed accident form must not be left in the book, but should be posted through the office letterbox for the attention of the Vicar / churchwardens.
2. Hirers must ensure that all fire exits are kept unlocked throughout the period of hire and that access to them is not blocked, either inside or out, by equipment, tables, etc.

By signing this hire agreement, you are also guaranteeing to abide by nationally recognised protection and safeguarding practices for children and vulnerable adults, should you have responsibility for either group of people at All Saints Church Hall.

Dated.....

Signed.....

Name.....

On behalf of (name of group)

Version Control

Issue Date	Version Number	Change
18 th July 2020	1	Legal & Safety item 6 – Ref to premises licence removed. Size of hall & Ref to Gov guidelines added. General: item 6 – Churchwarden contact details added.
22 July 2020	2	Covid-19 paragraphs added at beginning of document.
27 July 2020	3	Covid-19 Restrictions: Amended. General: item 2 – ref. to bouncy castles added. Legal & Safety: Item 9 added.
3 Aug 2020	4	Minor changes 1/1, 1/5, 3. Item 7/3 added.
2 nd Sept 2020	5	Section 6/9 added. Changes 1/1, 1/8 & 2/3
9 th October 2020	6	Section 2/6 John Johnson phone number changed
5 th May 2021	7	Page 1: Hall Bookings Manager name and phone number changed. 1/1, 3, 3/3, 3/4, 3/6, 4/1: Change of Secretary to Manager. 2/6: Contact changed to Hall Bookings Manager. 3/4: removed ‘generally on a Monday morning’
26 th June 2021	8	1/8, 1/9&Section 5: Removed refs to kitchen closure, added only four people in kitchen to ensure social distancing. 2/6: Changed contact re heating problems to Jayne.
11 th Nov 2021	9	Covid restrictions removed. 2/6 amended. Ref to car park added. General update.
4 th April 2023	10	2/6: Changed contact for heating issues to Hall Bookings Manager. 5/8: £10 charge for use of cooker. 6/1: Changed defibrillator location etc. 7/1: Added that completed accident sheet should be posted through office letterbox FAO Vicar / churchwardens,
4 th November 2023	11	Page 1 point 3 Underlined no sellotape blutac etc on walls and floors Page 1 point 7 Updated heating instructions allowing users access to thermostat Page 2 point 8 – clarified use of PA system
31 st May 2024	12	Bouncy Castles now allowed after being disallowed previously Bubble Houses mentioned as allowed in terms and conditions for first time – subject to clause 6.10
16 th October 2025	13	Section 6.11 – updated with Safeguarding wording recommended for the whole of the Whitstable Team Churches