

Resuming Chaplaincy

The guiding principle in our approach to resuming chaplaincy is to minimize the risk from COVID both to chaplains and those they visit. We have a duty of care to you as volunteers with FWW, and also to those we seek to serve through chaplaincy.

What you must do.

When resuming chaplaincy, after the most recent lockdown, all FWW chaplains are asked to comply with the following steps. These are covered in a training video posted on the FWW website. [Resuming chaplaincy safely - training video - \(faithatwork.org.uk\)](#) These include:

- Wear a face covering
- Use hand sanitizer often
- Keep social distance (2 m)

If the last of these is not possible in a particular workplace you should not visit.

What you may do in addition.

Since last summer two further precautions have become possible. Whilst we highly recommend these steps, these are discretionary. Please keep your local team leader informed.

Vaccination

The information published most recently supports the view that vaccination reduces not only the risk of catching COVID, but also of transmitting it to others. We strongly recommend you wait to resume chaplaincy until three weeks after you have received your first dose of vaccine. Waiting until you have had your second booster inoculation is not necessary.

Lateral Flow Tests

Whilst not requiring you to have a LFT in order to do chaplaincy it will provide reassurance to those you visit that you are not infectious and have taken their safety seriously. If you choose to have LFTs ideally have the test immediately before visiting.

FWW has registered for home tests and should be able to provide you with your own kit. This is very simple and will allow you to have a test just before you visit. Contact Dick if you are interested.

Alternatively, tests are available at local centres. It is easy to book at [Book a LF test](#). There are centres at Pershore, Bromsgrove, Redditch, Kidderminster, Worcester and Malvern, and most start at 10:00 a.m. (Redditch starts from 8.30 on some days). Though most provide 'walk-in' tests, use the booking system to help you time your appointment to just before you plan to visit. As part of the booking online one question is, 'The organisation you work for'. Select 'None of the below' and in the next box, which asks for occupation, put 'chaplain'. Results arrive as a text to your phone after about 30 minutes.

For more information contact Dick on dickjohnson@faithatwork.org.uk or on 07946 655450