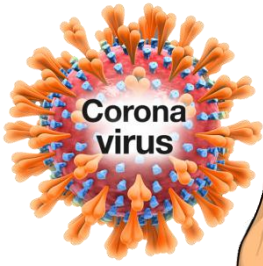


Coronavirus and Religious Worship





Coronavirus is affecting all parts of our lives, including how we worship.



Essex County Council



Essex County Council has written this leaflet to tell you how to stay safe and worship.



The government says:

“Stay home. Protect the NHS. Save Lives”

This means you must stay at home You can only go out for these reasons:



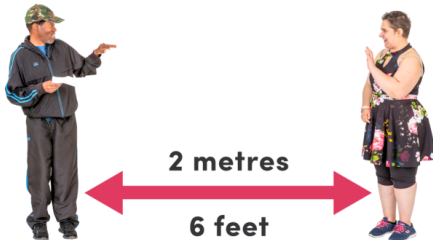
- To go shopping for the things you really need like food or medicine.



- To exercise for 1 hour.



- If you need to see a doctor.



If you go out you must stay 2 metres from other people.



Wash your hands when you get home.



You must not meet other people even friends and family.

Worship, prayers and festivals



Places of worship including churches, mosques and synagogues are closed.



Social events like weddings, baptisms and church services are not allowed.



You must not meet for religious festivals like Easter in April.



You should check government advice before attending religious festivals later in the year.



You can worship at home with the people you live with.



You can find prayer services online.



You can use social media to pray with friends and family.

Going to a funeral



Funerals can take place.



Burials and cremations are both allowed.



Funerals can only take place at a crematorium or burial ground.



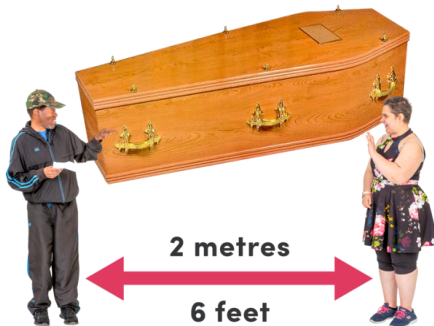
X10

Only 10 people can go to the funeral.

These must be people who lived with the person who has died and their close family.



Close family means husband, wife or partner, parents and children of the person who has died.



You must always stay 2 metres away from other people during the funeral.



Do **not** go to the funeral if:

- You show signs of coronavirus.



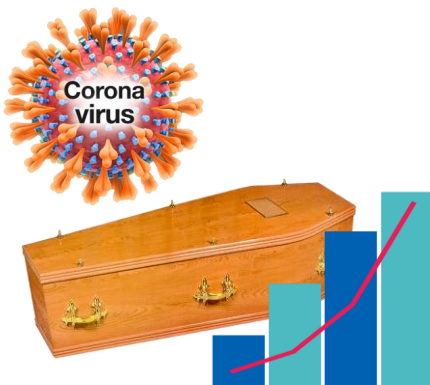
- You are over 70 years old.



- You have a long-term health condition like asthma.



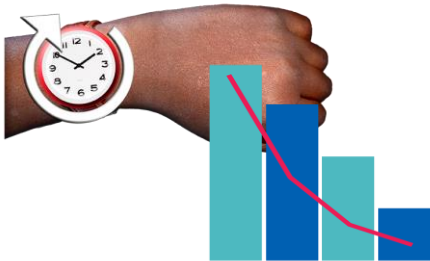
If you cannot go to the funeral some cemeteries are streaming funerals for you follow online.



Because of coronavirus more people are dying at the moment.



This means that there might be delay before the funeral can take place.



We are working with **bereavement** services to help keep this delay as short as possible.

Bereavement means being sad because someone you love has died.



Ask your religious leader about how you can mourn your loved one at home.



You can get bereavement support from bereavement services, religious groups and community groups.

What to do if your loved died from coronavirus



If your loved one died from coronavirus you must not touch the body for example to wash it.



They will be taken to a special funeral home until the funeral.

You will not be allowed to visit them there.



If you lived with the person who has died you will need to self-isolate for 14 days (2 weeks).