



The Methodist Church of New Zealand
Te Hāhi Weteriana o Aotearoa

Caring for Our People Manaakitia ā Tātou Tāngata

METHODIST CHURCH LOOKING FORWARD

Cleaning

Version 2

Friday 12 June 2020

This document is a Connexional Work in Progress

The advice in this document is not based on any Alert Level of the Covid-19 pandemic, it should apply throughout.

It is advice of good practice which we should consider keeping as a core activity as we navigate our way through this challenging time.

The document looks at the advice that is publicly available, and then considers how we can use that information within our buildings.

This document will be updated as suggestions come forward from the Connexion. Please contribute your great ideas to this cause!

Contact Trudy at healthandsafety@methodist.org.nz

The virus on surfaces

"COVID-19 can remain on plastic and stainless steel surfaces for up to about 3 days and less than that for other types of surfaces. This will depend on the surface." ¹

Cleaning vs disinfecting

"If surfaces look visibly dirty, they should be cleaned first. Best to use a detergent which will have the added bonus of likely deactivating coronaviruses as they are enveloped viruses.

If you are using a disinfectant make sure it says it is antiviral and follow the instructions. Often, we just end up using a cloth to wipe the microbes around rather than actually letting them sit and stew in the disinfectant first so that it can do its job. **Surfaces will need about 10 seconds soaking with the disinfectant for it to work.**" ²

Options to consider:

1. Leave surfaces alone for 3 days or more
2. Disinfect the surfaces/objects before and after they are touched
3. Avoid/bypass the surfaces/objects entirely
4. Disinfect the hands before and after they touch the surfaces/objects
5. Minimise the number of people who have to touch the surface/object

Apply the options to your building and activity.

6. Inform people of the upgraded procedures.

Hand washing dishes

Ensuring dishes are sterilised is easy with a dishwasher or steriliser unit. The following link has useful information in it regarding steps to take if handwashing is your only option.

<https://www.realsimple.com/home-organizing/cleaning/how-to-disinfect-dirty-dishes>

The key ones:

- Buy antibacterial dish wash liquid
- Use a scrubber rather than a sponge
- Use water as hot as you can (and heat resistant dish wash gloves)
- Sterilise tea towels/drying towels between uses

¹ Copied from <https://covid19.govt.nz/covid-19/how-were-uniting/cleaning-surfaces/#how-to-kill-the-virus-on-surfaces> as at 19 May 2020

² Copied from <https://thespinoff.co.nz/science/07-03-2020/how-to-get-rid-of-covid-19-from-surfaces-the-right-way/> as at 19 May 2020

Cleaning between groups and building uses

- Ensure groups stay within their designated time frames and or areas to provide time to clean
- Ensure group numbers are within the approved guidelines
- Shorten each groups time frames to avoid overlaps
- Ensure each group maintains outstanding hygiene habits
- Building use may be cancelled if users cannot maintain standards
- Create a one way system to help separate people

Additional cleaning products may have to be provided for cleaning, although some groups may also be obliged to provide sanitisation and cleaning products for their own people.