



1-2 Hailesland Pl, Edinburgh EH14 2SL

Young People's Team - 07840111297

Dear Parents and Carers

We are excited to be able to re-start offering provision for Young People on a Sunday morning from 29<sup>th</sup> November. We have missed the chance to journey with our young people in person over this long period and look forward to learning with them again through games, stories, prayers and crafts. We long that they encounter God for themselves and build a personal faith of their own they can claim and draw on, especially in these difficult times.

We are aware that not every family will be ready for this step – you are not forgotten! There will be a Zoom gathering using the same theme that will be used in church for the littlest-9yrs old from 9.30-10am every week so everyone can stay in step. For 10yrs+ Hayley will run the work in the Youth Lounge (10.30-11.30) with an ongoing Zoom session so that anyone at home can still be part of the group and will share the info each week on the Facebook page. The set links for this are at the bottom of this letter for folks who don't use social media.

Unfortunately, the current restrictions make it impossible for us to offer a safe set up at Mini Js for our under 5s. Little ones who are able to manage to stay alongside their parents for the duration of the service are of course allowed to be booked into the sanctuary. Similarly, they could attend the group downstairs with an older sibling (or a parent on team) if it was felt that they could manage this. Please do reach out to Jo if you are keen for them to attend but would like suggestions of how this can be safely supported.

Obviously, this will all feel quite different from what our young people were used to pre-Covid but we are hoping and praying that many of them will be blessed by the chance to be together on a smaller scale (and therefore with less noise and more personalised input than usual) and that this will encourage them in their faith as well as enable their grown ups to attend or serve and be blessed too.

Here is some key information that you will need to take onboard to help you think through your plans to attend. Jo and Hayley will be happy to answer any questions arising from this and we are aware that plans may need to change on very short notice in line with any changes to Edinburgh's Tier status.

-Jo will be running a group for preschool-P5 in the café. P7s up will join Hayley in the youth lounge. Those young people in P6 can decide (though preference will need to be made clear when booking) which style of group is most suited to their learning style (or a less explosive combination of siblings!!!) – more active downstairs, more discussion based upstairs. We hope to re-start Extra J in due course once we can work out a safe space to work in.

-Spaces will be available on a first come, first served basis to any parents/carers who have a space booked for the service upstairs (email Mon-Thurs, earlier the better, [admin@holytrinitywesterhailes.org.uk](mailto:admin@holytrinitywesterhailes.org.uk) or call 07888 490410) and also to any parents that choose to volunteer with the young peoples work.

(We hope to be able to also offer spaces to children of anyone leading or helping in any capacity upstairs but there may be a little juggling needed to make sure that we keep upstairs/downstairs completely separate without kids being dropped off before things are ready for them!)

PTO

-We are only allowed to operate under very strict rules from the government which state that although under 12s do not need to social distance, those 12 and over and all team need to remain 2m from all others at all times. Masks will also always be worn.

-Under Tier 3 conditions we are limited to 10 young people in the café, and less in the youth lounge due to its size, though the café limit will increase by 10 with each Tier we go down.

-All drop offs (incl older kids/teens who will use the metal stairs to access the youth lounge) will happen using a 2m spaced queue into the café door. Parents will need to wear masks, sanitise hands, provide a contact number and follow the one way system to exit from the Foodbank door before re-entering the main church entrance to attend the service. This will also be the system for pick ups at the end of the service. ***The indoor main stairs are out of use for the time being to keep the two areas of the church distinct.***

-Please do not attend if anyone in your household has a new persistent cough, a temperature or a loss of taste/smell.

-Please provide a snack/drink for each young person if possible. We would like to limit risk of close contact but will provide pre-packaged food and drink if needed.

-If your young person is unwell, in distress or is ignoring instructions that mean that volunteers or other attendees are at placed risk of harm or infection we will contact you to come and collect them on your contact number. Please keep your phone on (but silent) through the service so that you can be reached by message and then come to the outside café entrance to collect them.

We will aim at all times to keep your young person safe but we also want to make sure that they feel welcomed and at home in church. Please do pray each week that this is a valued and precious time together and there is a sense for each person of God's presence and love.

God bless

Jo Black and Hayley Baillie

Holy Trinity Young Peoples Team  
(jo@holymtrinitywesterhailes.org.uk / [hayley@holymtrinitywesterhailes.org.uk](mailto:hayley@holymtrinitywesterhailes.org.uk))

**Sunday morning Online for up to 10yrs old with Jo - 9.30-10am each week**

Meeting ID: 747 2208 2971

Passcode: Zoombox

**Senior J Live with Hayley - 10-16yr olds - 10.30-11.30**

Meeting ID: 926 8865 8006

Passcode: SeniorJ12