



## Neeli Masjid Rochdale statement & guidelines for reopening



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### In the name of Allah, the Lord of Mercy, the Giver of Mercy

The communal nature of Masajid make them places which are particularly vulnerable to the spread of coronavirus. It is for this reason all places of worship were forced to close in March. The last few months have been extremely difficult for us all, with the Masjid playing such a crucial role in the life of a Muslim. Most certainly though, with every hardship comes ease. Alhamdulillah the government has now started to ease the previous restrictions.

Guidance has been issued to allow Masajid to open for congregational prayers from the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. After conducting a thorough risk assessment and deep cleaning of the Masjid, we are pleased to announce **Neeli Masjid will be opening for congregational prayers from Dhuhr prayer (2pm) on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> July 2020, Insha'Allah.**

The government guidance for opening is conditional upon attendees following the required safety measures to ensure everyone is protected. Failing to comply with the guidance and rules set out may lead to the Masjid being closed by the local authorities. **We kindly request your assistance and co-operation in this matter.** We pray Allah SWT allows the Masajid to remain open and continue to be a source of spiritual and social well-being for the whole community.

### PREPARING TO ATTEND NEELI MASJID – WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW AND DO

***\*Please note the Masjid will only open 15 minutes prior to the jamaat time and close 10 minutes after the jamaat has ended\*.***

Please follow the guidance set out below to ensure a safe reopening for the whole community.

### THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE SHOULD NOT ATTEND THE MASJID:

- *Those displaying any symptoms of covid-19: a new continuous cough, high temperature or loss/change to sense of smell/taste (this includes anyone living with symptomatic individuals).*
- *Those who have been advised to self-isolate/shield (includes anyone living with people in this group).*
- *Anyone deemed clinically vulnerable will be advised not to attend.*

### STEP 1 – BEFORE COMING TO THE MASJID

- Perform wudhu at home. Toilet and wudhu areas will be closed to the public.
- Perform your Sunnah prayers at home
- Bring your own prayer mat.

- Bring your own Qur'an if wishing to use. No Qur'ans will be available at the Masjid.
- Bring a carrier bag for shoes and keep these with you during your visit.
- Wear a face mask or covering.
- Children above the age of 10 can attend.

### **STEP 2 – WHILST AT THE MASJID**

- Follow the designated entrance signs. A one way system will be in operation.
- Use designated hand sanitisers upon entry to the Masjid.
- Maintain social distancing of 2 metres at all times. The prayer hall will have marked areas for individual prayer spots at the 2 metre distance.
- Only the prayer halls are to be used for worship. Corridors or other side rooms are not to be used.
- Please note chairs will not be available for use whilst praying. Stools will be available if required.
- Avoid all physical contact or socialising with others whilst within the Masjid. No handshakes, hugs etc.
- Avoid unnecessary contact with hard surfaces whilst within the masjid.
- Always cover your coughs and sneezes (use the tissues available and immediately bin afterwards).
- Anyone who displays symptoms or falls ill whilst visiting the masjid will be asked to leave and follow the relevant government guidance: <http://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>
- Please show respect to the volunteers/masjid staff. We will not tolerate any inappropriate behaviour towards volunteers/masjid staff.
- The maximum number of attendees is 60 for normal prayers. This is on a first come basis. Jummah details to be confirmed before the 10<sup>th</sup> of July, 2020.

### **STEP 3 – ON LEAVING THE MASJID**

- Attendees are encouraged to pray Sunnah and Nafl prayers at home. The Masjid will close 10 minutes after the Jamaat has ended.
- Follow the designated exit signs using the one-way system and use the hand sanitiser before leaving.
- Maintain social distancing upon exit from the Masjid and avoid gathering or socialising.

Attendance at the Masjid s is dependent upon individuals following the aforementioned guidelines above. The Masjid team reserves the right to deny entry to anyone posing a risk to others or not following the guidelines above to ensure the necessary protection of all attendees.

Finally, we should thank and praise Allah SWT for allowing the Masjids' to open once again. This period of closure has undoubtedly highlighted the great status the Masajid hold within the heart of a Muslim. May he SWT allow us to continually frequent his house, and may he grant wellbeing and health to all of humanity.

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