



The Federation of
Islamic Associations
of New Zealand (Inc.)

اتحاد الجمعيات الإسلامية النيوزيلندية

SINCE 1979

FIANZ ADVISORY FOR ALL MOSQUES AND ISLAMIC CENTRES

PUBLIC HEALTH PROTOCOLS/GUIDELINES FOR MASJIDS AND ISLAMIC CENTRES

Based on the COVID-19 Protection Framework
(Traffic Light System) for Aotearoa New Zealand

NOVEMBER 2021

WWW.FIANZ.COM



Asalaamu alaikum Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuh

Please find in this a series of COVID-19 related safety documents that we recommend to be used by all Mosque Committees for the safe reopening and functioning of Mosques. FIANZ has consulted many experts and stakeholders and has reviewed relevant Government regulations and guidelines during the development of these documents.

These guidelines should be adapted by Mosque Committees to suit their own context. Each mosque shall be in charge of their own COVID-19 Safety Plan. Our role of FIANZ is advisory and it is strongly recommended that the Ministry of Health be contacted for further clarification. Please note that advice from the Ministry of Health is subject to change and you should refer to the Ministry of Health webpage for the most up to date information.

Inshallah these guidelines shall contribute to ensuring the safety of our community and to the wider public health of Aotearoa New Zealand.”

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1.00

ISLAMIC PRECEPTS & PRINCIPLES

1.1 - OUR RESPONSIBILITY DURING COVID 19 PANDEMIC

Islam guarantees the right of life for every human being, whether they are Muslims or non-Muslims. Every human life is sacred in Islam and every person has been granted this God-given fundamental and universal right at the time of their birth. Every soul has been made sacred, and it is the responsibility of every individual to protect it. Allah swt says in the Glorious Quran:

“On that account, we decreed upon the Children of Israel that whoever kills a soul - unless it be for murder or for spreading corruption on the earth - it is as if they had killed all of humankind. And whoever saves a soul - it is as if they had saved all of humankind.”

(Al-Quran, 5:32)

1.2 - VACCINATION AND THE OBJECTIVES OF THE SHARI`AH

The aim of vaccination is to stimulate our immune system to produce antibodies exactly as it would if we were exposed to the disease. Once a person has been vaccinated, they develop immunity to that disease, without having to contract the disease first. This therefore makes the vaccine a powerful tool for healthcare.

The Al-Maqasid al-Shari`ah (Objectives of Divine Law) are five:

1. Preservation religion and morality (hifz al-din);
2. Preservation of life and health (hifz al-nafs);
3. Preservation of progeny (hifz al-nasl)
4. Preservation of intellect/sanity (hifz al-`aql); and
5. Preservation of wealth (hifz al-mal)



Vaccination fulfils all of the five objectives of the Shari`ah. For example:

1. Insofar as the **preservation of religion** is concerned, Muslims who are vaccinated against the vaccine-preventable diseases will be in a better position to uphold and put into practice all the fara'id (obligatory acts) of their religion.
2. Vaccination initiatives by facilitating universal access to safe vaccines have succeeded in the **preservation of the lives** of millions of people across the globe, thereby reducing global morbidity and mortality.
3. Parents who opt to have their children vaccinated the **preservation of their progeny** by safeguarding them from succumbing to vaccine preventable diseases.
4. **Preservation of intellect/sanity** is achieved through those who implement the vaccination initiatives in their community and country at large will enjoy peace of mind knowing that their community and citizens have been protected from contracting vaccine-preventable diseases.
5. Vaccinations contributes to the **preservation of wealth**. It is an extremely cost-effective intervention and makes good economic sense in that it is always better to prevent a disease rather than to have to treat it and its resultant complications.

1.3 - GETTING THE COVID 19 VACCINE

It is important for all of us to get vaccinated as soon as possible. This is our social, and religious responsibility. As with any disease, we have been advised to seek its cure. This pandemic is no different.

1. Abu Huraira (ra) reported that The Prophet (saw) said, "There is no disease that Allah has created, except that He also has created its treatment." (Bukhari)
2. Anas bin Malik (ra) reported, the Prophet (saw) said: "Indeed, Allah created disease and also its cure. Hence, seek medication." (Musnad Ahmad)

This requires all of us to be united against it and adhere to the guidelines outlined by the authorities. The Covid vaccine has proven to be the best way to protect ourselves and those around us. In other words, getting vaccinated is not just about you, it is about providing a safe environment for all.

1.4 - THE NEED TO FOLLOW ADVICE AND REGULATIONS?

Islam being a complete code of life provides guidance for all scenarios, including those we are facing today and so it is important to keep in mind some useful Islamic principles and legal maxims.

- Life is a gift from Allah and must be preserved
- Health is a blessing from Allah and must be safeguarded
- Illness is a trial from Allah and must be fought
- Collective benefit takes precedence over individual benefit
- Risk of individual harm is endured in order to repel public harm
- Aversion of harm takes priority over acquisition of benefit
- Our worship and obligations are categorised in degrees of importance

“O you who believe, obey Allah and obey the Messenger, and those in authority among you.”
(Al-Quran 4:59)

We are obligated in Islam to follow instructions and directives from our Government in such a matter. The relevant authorities have given specific guidelines. When it comes to hygiene, seeking medical advice, self-isolation, utilisation of resources, and general movements - we must follow the directives from the relevant authorities.

However, we would like to clarify the degrees of importance of religious duties and suggest ways to minimise risks in line with the guidelines from these authorities.

1. The Prophet Muhammad (saw) said: “If you hear of an epidemic afflicting a land, do not enter it, and if it afflicts the land you are in, do not leave it.” (Bukhari)
2. The Prophet Muhammad (saw) said: “The ill should not be taken to the healthy.” (Muslim)
3. The Prophet Muhammad (saw) said: “Do not harm or reciprocate harm.” (Muwatta Imam Malik)

Every Muslim knows and is taught that performing the five daily prayers is obligatory, that is why Masaajid are built. Praying in congregation is required, but praying individually is permissible, praying on time is required but praying later is permissible, it all comes down to circumstances just as fasting during the month of Ramadhan is obligatory but making it up in later

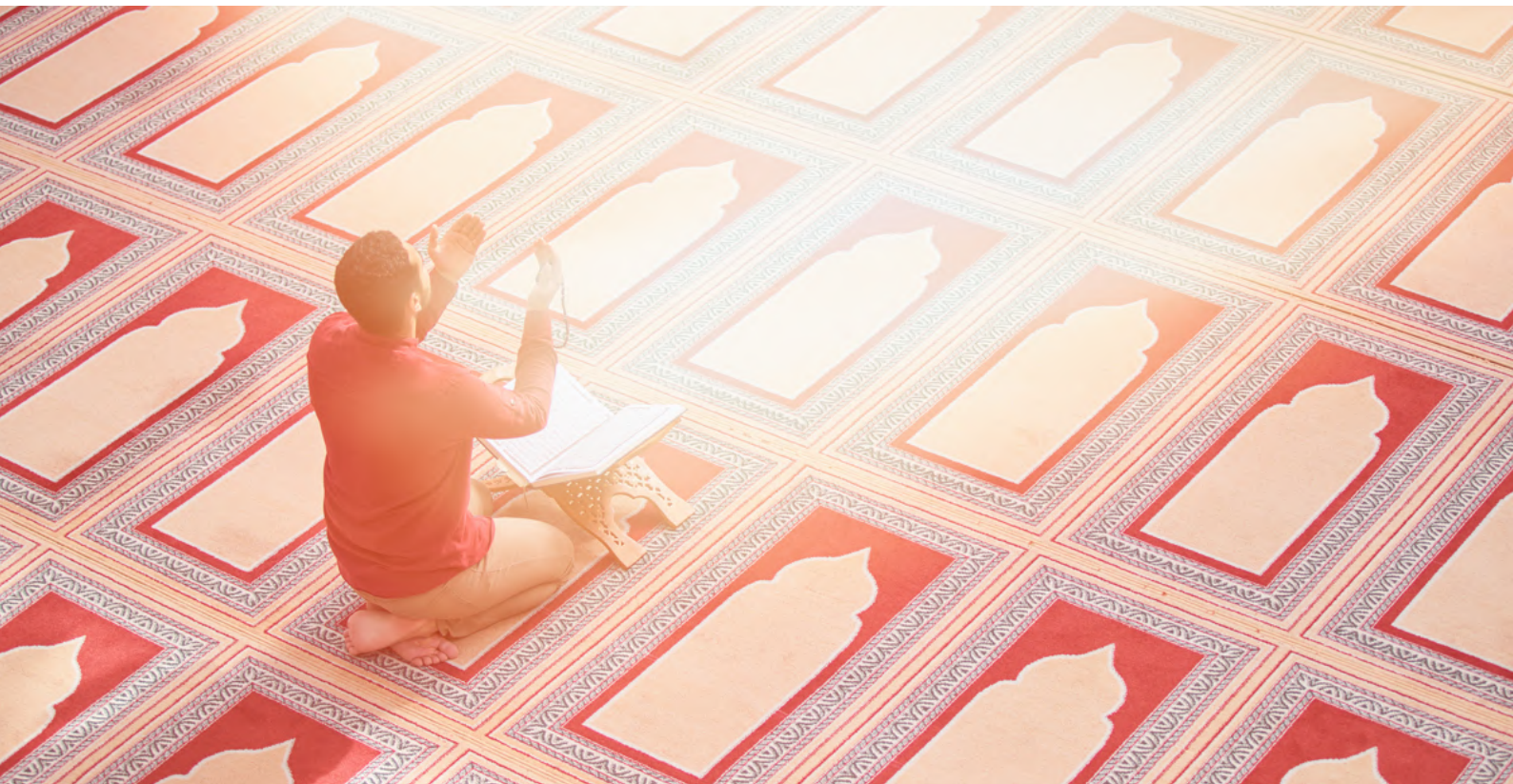
months is permissible depending on the circumstances. Some circumstances are valid and acceptable and some are not.

Here we would like to inform our community that the current circumstances make it permissible for us to make some changes to our daily routines, for example, if you are feeling unwell then you must not go to the Masjid, you **must** pray in your home. Those for whom attendance at the Masjid was never obligatory to begin with should not go at all. Those who are well and able to attend the congregational prayers at the Masjid should minimise the time spent at the Masjid, i.e. pray your sunnah at home and arrive in time for the congregation then leave immediately to pray the rest of your sunnah at home.

1.5 - ONLY OBLIGATORY PRAYERS IN THE MASJID?

As a matter of fact, even in normal circumstances, it is preferable and more rewarding to pray sunnah at home, as is evident from the following hadith:

1. Zaid bin Thabit (ra) reported: The Prophet (saw) said, "O people! perform your (voluntary) salat (prayers) in your homes because the best salat of a man is the one he performs at home, except the obligatory salat."
(Al-Bukhari & Muslim)
2. Ibn Umar (ra) reported that the Prophet (saw) said: "Perform some of your prayers (voluntary) in your houses and do not make them graves." (Al-Bukhari & Muslim)



1.6 - WUDU FACILITIES IN MASJID SHOULD BE STOPPED IF NECESSARY TO PREVENT VIRUS SPREAD?

Performing wudu prior to making your journey to the Masjid for Salat is more rewarding.

1. Abu Hurayrah (ra) reports that Rasulullah (saw) said: When one performs wudu at home and leaves for the masjid solely to offer salat [in congregation], for every step taken towards the masjid [in this state of wudu] one sin is forgiven, one reward accrued, and one stage is elevated in the Hereafter. (Bukhari & Muslim)

2. Abu Umamah (ra) reports that Rasulullah (saw) said: One who performs wudu at home then proceeds to the masjid for fard salat secures the reward of a Haji in the state of ihram. (Sunan Abi Dawud)

Doing wudu at home before proceeding to the masjid is a recommended practice. Besides the above, it holds other spiritual benefits as well.

1.7- ARE SEVERAL SHORT JUMMAH PRAYERS ALLOWED, AND IF SO CAN THERE BE 4 OR 5 SESSIONS OR MORE OVER 2 HOURS?

Multiple Jummah prayers are allowed in a time of need where the mosque is not big enough to accommodate the respective musalli's. This is heightened when there are restrictions in place, such as during this pandemic where social distancing needs to be maintained and additional protocols need to be enforced. Which means a smaller number of musalli's, which in turn necessitates the need for multiple Jummah sessions. In such as a situation it not only allowed but is in fact preferred to hold multiple sessions.

1.8 - ARE HAND SANITISERS WHICH CONTAIN ALCOHOL ACCEPTABLE?

It is important to source non-alcoholic hand sanitisers for the mosque. These are available in the market. If there is difficulty in sourcing such products, we may use some other form of sanitiser instead.



1.9 - IS THERE A NEED FOR PEOPLE TO TAKE THEIR MASKS OFF? SOME IN THE COMMUNITY THINK IT IS ESSENTIAL THEIR FOREHEAD AND NOSE TO TOUCH THE FLOOR WHEN THEY ARE PRAYING.

There is no requirement for your forehead and nose to directly touch the floor during prayer. We must understand that we are dealing with exceptional circumstances where obligatory practices are allowed to be eased. The whole purpose of the mask is to protect yourself and others from the spread of the virus. Taking off the mask during the prayer defeats this purpose. Especially when you are in close proximity of others.

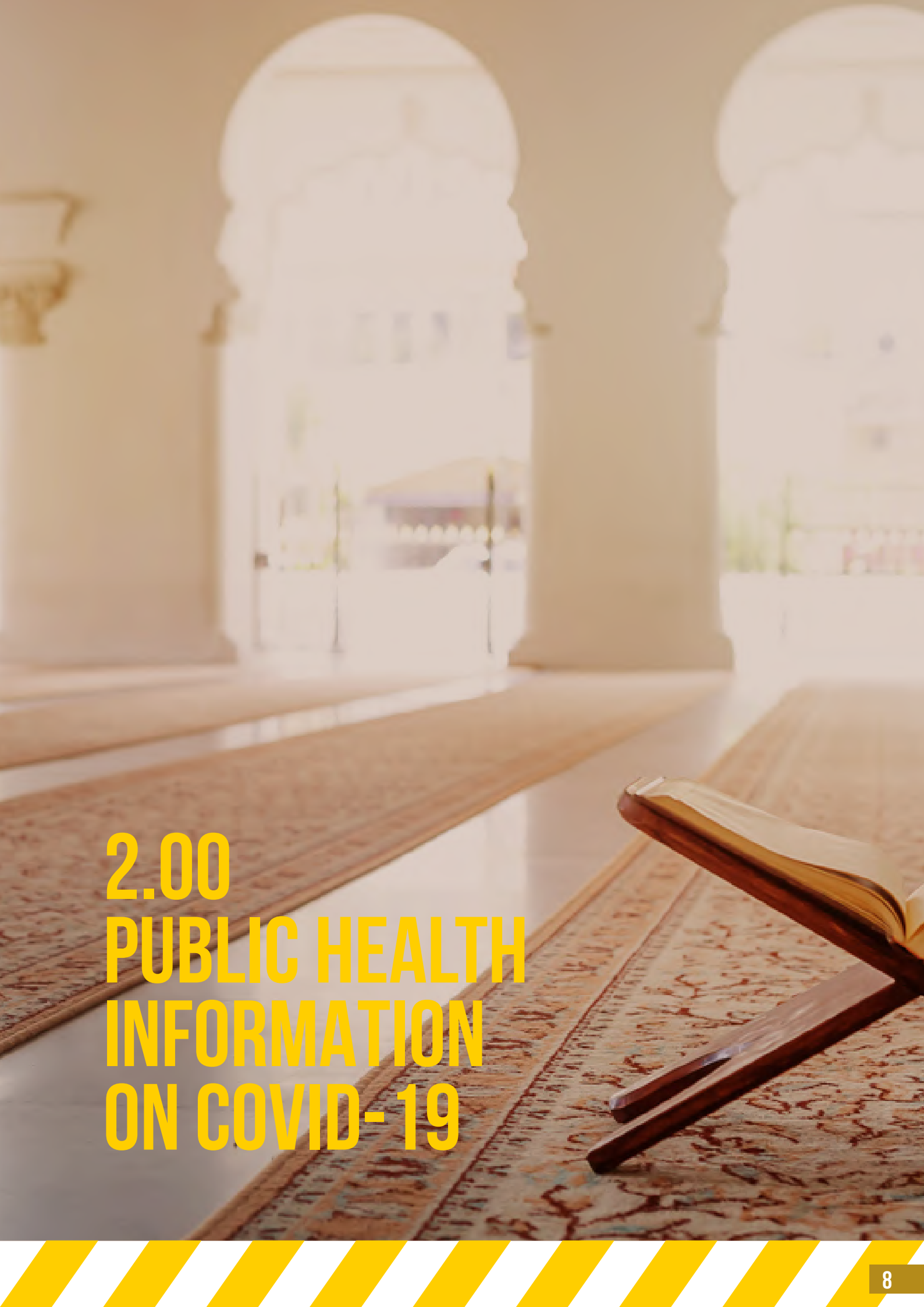


If anyone thinks that they will get extra reward for the extra struggle of going to the masjid while unwell, they are gravely mistaken and will be committing a sin by endangering other people's health as the hadith of the Prophet (saw) says: "the ill should not be taken to the healthy."

Our religion teaches us to visit the sick, but under these circumstances, instead of physically visiting them we can make phone calls to inquire about their health. We should certainly look out for each other and support each other, particularly those who may be living alone or who may be more susceptible due to other preconditions, such as the sick and the elderly among us.

Keep in mind the severity of the situation in light of the Quranic teaching that likens the killing of one life to the killing of humanity. We should be extremely cautious that we do not become the means for the death of anyone else under any circumstances for it is indeed a great sin. Our religion demands from us that we save ourselves as well as others. This is the role of the vaccine which provides protection against this deadly virus.

Also keep in mind that these guidelines are a temporary measure until such time as the situation has improved and the authorities have lifted the restrictions. This is a trial from Allah but we must be optimistic and hopeful. Allah does not create a disease without creating its cure, which will be found in time inshallah.

A photograph of an open book on a wooden stand in a mosque, with a yellow and white striped banner at the bottom.

**2.00
PUBLIC HEALTH
INFORMATION
ON COVID-19**



2.1 - WHAT IS COVID-19?

COVID-19 is caused by a coronavirus named SARS-CoV-2 that can affect your lungs, airways and other organs. SARS-CoV-2 was first recognised in China and is thought to have originated in animals.

The SARS-CoV-2 virus that causes COVID-19 has undergone genetic mutations over time as it adapts to humans. Some of these mutations, such as the Delta variant, can spread more easily than the original virus and may cause more severe diseases.

Common symptoms of COVID-19 are like those found with illnesses such as a cold or influenza. You may have one or more of the following:

- new or worsening cough
- sneezing and runny nose
- fever
- temporary loss of smell or altered sense of taste
- sore throat
- shortness of breath

Less common symptoms of COVID-19 may include diarrhoea, headache, muscle aches, nausea, vomiting, malaise, chest pain, abdominal pain, joint pain or confusion/irritability. These almost always occur with one or more of the common symptoms. Symptoms tend to arise around two to five days after a person has been infected but can take up to 14 days to show. The virus can be passed onto others before they know they have it – from up to two days before symptoms develop.

The virus that causes COVID-19 is mostly spread in particles that escape from an infected person's mouth or nose when they breathe, speak, cough, sneeze or sing.

More info: <https://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/diseases-and-conditions/-covid-19-novel-coronavirus/covid-19-health-advice-public/about-covid-19>



2.2 - WHAT IS THE DELTA VARIANT?

The COVID-19 Delta variant has spread rapidly worldwide. It spreads a lot more easily than the original version of the COVID-19 virus. That's why we need to protect each other by getting vaccinated, wearing a mask and keeping our distance from people we don't know, especially in crowded indoor places.

There are a few ways the Delta variant is different from other variants.

- You can get sicker with Delta than with the other variants.
- You are more likely to end up in hospital with Delta than with other variants.
- The chance of infecting other people, like your family, is very high. On average, 1 person infected with Delta may infect 5 or 6 other people. This is how Delta outbreaks overseas have grown so rapidly.

The vaccine that you can get now in New Zealand works against the Delta variant.

2.3 - THE COVID-19 PROTECTION FRAMEWORK (TRAFFIC LIGHT SYSTEM)


The COVID-19 Protection Framework brings us a world where we are freer to move and live with less disruption.

The government has announced the traffic light for each region. Please refer to the Ministry site.

The COVID-19 Protection Framework introduces a new flexible 3-level approach to managing COVID-19 in the community:

- **Green**
- **Orange**
- **Red**

This framework is more flexible than the current Alert Level system because evidence suggests that locations that only open to vaccinated customers pose a lower risk. However, there may be a need in some cases to move up to higher levels when needed to control an outbreak.



Please note that advice from the Ministry of Health is subject to change and each masjid and centre should refer to the Ministry of Health webpage for the most up to date information, guidelines and requirements.

More info: <https://covid19.govt.nz/assets/COVID-19-Protection-Framework/-COVID-19-Protection-Framework-22-October-2021.pdf>

2.4 - ONGOING PUBLIC HEALTH MEASURES

Testing, contact tracing and isolation will continue as key tools to minimise any spread of the virus.

Localised lockdowns will still be an option if there is a rapid growth in cases. There may still be a need to use wider lockdowns, similar to the measures in Alert Level 3 or 4.

To shift between levels, key considerations will be:

- vaccination coverage
- capacity of the health and disability system
- testing, contact tracing and case management capacity
- the transmission of COVID-19 within the community, including its impact on key populations.

2.5 - VACCINATION CERTIFICATE REQUIREMENTS

Community locations, including masjids and Islamic centres, may legally choose to implement a vaccination entry requirement for members.

If a business, organisation or service does not wish to request proof of vaccine, they will have to operate with strict limits on capacity and space requirements. They may need to close in Orange and/or Red levels.



3.00
TRAFFIC LIGHT SYSTEM
FOR MASJIDS &
ISLAMIC CENTRES

3.1 - TRAFFIC LIGHT IN SUMMARY

	VACCINATION CERTIFICATES MANDATORY FOR ENTRY	VACCINATION CERTIFICATES NOT REQUIRED FOR ENTRY
AT ALL LEVELS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Record Keeping/COVID-19 Tracer Scanning is Required Face Coverings Mandatory 	
GREEN <ul style="list-style-type: none"> COVID-19 across New Zealand, including sporadic imported cases. Limited community transmission. COVID-19 hospitalisations are at a manageable level. Whole of health system is ready to respond – primary care, public health, and hospitals. 	No limits to gatherings	Up to 100 people, based on 1m distancing
ORANGE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increasing community transmission with increasing pressure on health system. Whole of health system is focusing resources but can manage – primary care, public health, and hospitals. Increasing risk to at risk populations. 	No limits to gatherings	Up to 50 people, based on 1m distancing
RED <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Action needed to protect health system – system facing unsustainable number of hospitalisations. Action needed to protect at-risk populations. 	Up to 100 people, based on 1m distancing	Up to 10 people

3.2 - ADVISORY FOR COMMUNITY LEADERS & MOSQUE AND ISLAMIC CENTRE MANAGEMENT

- COVID Safe Plan/Protocol for the conduct of religious services for each mosque or Centre to be approved by the responsible person and made publicly available
- Depending on Vaccination Certificate requirements, the maximum number of participants at a prayer service will be publicised based on the applicable physical distancing rule
- Fitted Masks are to be worn at all times by everyone entering the mosque or Centre
- Services should be kept as short as possible and should not last for more than an hour unless due to exceptional circumstances
- Services should be spaced to allow time to clean the relevant areas
- Signage should indicate the permitted number of worshippers that may be present
- Avoid ceremonial washing before services (wudu) at the facility.
- Avoid sharing food or drinks, cash handling during services, or extended socialising.
- Participants should bring and take away their own prayer mats, shoe bags, prayer books (use apps on tablets) and other items used for religious worship, e.g. tasbeeh/misbaha, prayer clothes
- Socks must be worn at all times
- Participants should not congregate outside the mosque or centre and should arrive and leave promptly.
- Use all available entrances and exits to enable quick assembly and dispersal – this may require additional signage
- Provide clear signage in car parks and ensure monitoring to avoid congestion
- Participants should be informed before attending what will be expected of them
- If larger than permitted numbers are expected, pre-booking systems/ticketing should be used providing equitable access for all
- All other standard controls apply (e.g. record keeping, hygiene stations, signage etc.)
- All high touch surfaces to be disinfected between services, plus daily cleaning of all common areas
- Indoor areas should be well ventilated, and doors and windows left open where possible
- Trained COVID Safety Officers and volunteers should be present at each service - responsible for record-keeping, queue management, cleaning between services, ensuring physical distancing and other compliance measures.

3.3 - ADVISORY FOR COVID-19 SAFETY OFFICER

The role of a COVID-19 Safety Officer (C-19 Officer) is to monitor and implement the COVID safety program for the place of worship in order to promote and educate the community, and thereby maintain an environment that is safe for the members attending services at the mosques and centres. The C-19 Officer should be part of the local community. The role of implementing the COVID safe plan will not only be the responsibility of the C-19 Officer but also the Mosque Management Committee and any other staff/volunteers appointed.

The person appointed will have to:

- Have received appropriate training in what the role will entail;
- Understand their duties and have the skills to implement them;
- Ensure they are up to date with all the regulations pertaining to COVID safety and the prevention of the spread of the disease where possible;
- That they do not put themselves at risk while carrying out their duties;
- Be able to discharge their duties and be responsible for the day to day management of the safety plan.

Individual mosque management committees and the C-19 officer, together with any relevant personnel must ensure that the appropriate quality control processes are in place. The Covid Safe Plan must be regularly audited and managed to ensure is fit for purpose and protects persons in their place of worship.

Actions to be taken by a C-19 Officer

The C-19 Officer will need to exercise due diligence to ensure that everyone complies with the requirements outlined in the COVID-19 Safety Plan.

In relation to COVID-19, due diligence means you must:

- Acquire and keep knowledge of the COVID-19 situation up-to-date;
- Follow the advice from the Ministry of Health and check daily, for any updates to safety advice. Take steps to help the mosque or centre implement it as soon as possible;
- Make sure your mosque or centre is adequately resourced to manage congregations and check that available resources are being utilised;
- Review the COVID-19 safety procedures and reporting processes to ensure they address the risks of COVID-19. Update these materials if necessary;
- Ensure that new safety procedures about COVID-19 are communicated clearly to the congregation and community;
- With the help of the Mosque / Centre Management committee identify volunteers who would be assisting in the process;
- Provide instruction and training to volunteers on things they need to do to help manage the risk of COVID-19 spreading.

3.4 - ADVISORY FOR VOLUNTEERS

The role of a volunteer is to assist the Mosque / Centre Management Committee and the COVID-19 Safety Officer (C-19 Officer), to implement the COVID Safety Plan specific for their place of worship. The role of the volunteers is crucial for ensuring community wellbeing while attending services at the mosque or centre.

Due to the high risk of severe disease if Covid 19 is contracted it is strongly recommended that those who fall in one or more of the categories listed below not be appointed as volunteers.

These include:

- High-risk groups including people aged 70 years and over;
- People with chronic medical conditions;
- People with compromised immune systems;
- People that have any symptoms (flu, cough, sore throat, etc.).

Volunteers should express their interest and availability within a sufficient timeframe to the C-19 Officer so that a roster may be organised as soon as possible.

It will be mandatory for volunteers to attend a training session and follow instructions given by the C-19 Officer and the Mosque / Centre Management Committee.

Actions required as a Volunteer

Volunteers need to exercise due diligence to ensure that everyone complies with the requirements outline in the COVID-19 Safety Plan.

In relation to COVID-19, due diligence means a volunteer must:

- Inform the C-19 Officer if there is any breach in the protocol or management of the place.
- Not take any action regarding any incident without reporting and consulting with the C19 Officer.
- Keep up to date knowledge of the COVID-19 situation.
- Follow and implement, under the direction of the C-19 Officer, the advice from authoritative sources such as the Ministry of Health and check daily for any updates to safety advice.
- Ensure that new safety procedures about COVID-19 are communicated clearly to your congregation and community;
- Follow instruction and training on how to help manage the risk of COVID-19 spreading.

3.5 - TRAINING FOR STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS

FIANZ will facilitate these training programmes when requested. These will be normally for two hours and can be via zoom.

COVID-19 Safety Officers:

- COVID-19 Safety Training
- COVID-19 Safety Officer Information Session

Volunteers:

- COVID-19 Safety Training

Enforceable Government directions during COVID-19

The C-19 Officer and the volunteers under the direction of the C-19 Officer, will have the shared responsibility to enforce the following government directives:

- Compliance with vaccination certification requirements
- Limits on public gatherings based on the Protection Framework
- Mandatory use of masks
- Mandatory record keeping



Unite
against
COVID-19



4.00 CHECKLIST OF WHAT TO DO



4.1 - ACTION POINTS FOR MOSQUE AND ISLAMIC CENTRE MANAGEMENT

Included in the table below is an outline of requirements to minimise COVID-19 spread. Please insert the actions you will take to comply with these requirements.

If you choose to make Vaccination Certificates mandatory, what steps do you have in place to ensure that only those who are vaccinated are entering the premises? How will you communicate this to the community? How will you audit or enforce this process?

What steps do you have in place to provide staff and volunteers with information and training on COVID-19, including when to get tested, physical distancing, wearing masks, and cleaning?

What steps do you have in place to display conditions of entry (e.g website, social media, venue entry)?





What strategies do you have in place to manage gatherings that may occur immediately outside the premises, such as at the conclusion of prayers? (e.g this may involve suspending or adjusting the practice of greeting musallis as they arrive or depart to ensure appropriate physical distancing)

Blank response area for the first question.

How would you ensure that all individuals entering the masjid or Islamic Centre will always wear a mask AND sanitise their hands upon arrival? (How would this be implemented – your strategy)

Blank response area for the second question.

Depending on vaccination certificate requirements and Traffic Light Levels, how will you ensure the required physical distancing? (How would this be implemented – your strategy)

Blank response area for the third question.





How will you ensure that that used indoor hard surface areas are cleaned at least daily with detergent/disinfectan?. Touched areas and surfaces should also be cleaned several times per day.

Blank area for response to the first question.

How will you ensure that all those entering the masjid or Islamic centre follow appropriate record keeping guidelines (e.g QR Code Scanning)? For those who do not have an appropriate device to use the COVID-19 Tracer App, what mechanisms will you have in place to record and store this information? (Please consider the confidential nature of this information)

Blank area for response to the second question.



4.2 - ACTION POINTS FOR INDOOR OR OUTDOOR PRAYER SERVICE

INDOOR:

- Enforce vaccination certificates on arrival if mandated.
- Mosque and centre facilities are adequately resourced to keep the congregation safe;
- People are informed of basic hygiene requirements such as wearing socks and bringing their own prayer mats (have an alternate arrangement if people fail to comply with this).
- Wearing masks is mandatory.
- Areas for prayer are marked and easy to identify. C-19 Officer will provide the volunteers with instructions on how to mark the suitable area.
- Proper disinfection and cleaning procedures are being followed.
- Mosques and centres will be operating effectively and ensuring the congregation respects prayer start times and the number of people attending is compliant with the COVID-19 Protection Framework.
- C-19 Officer is assisted in restructuring the area or equipment to maintain safety, e.g. removing furniture to provide more space, putting up barriers between staff and people.
- Congregants are using separate entry and exit points or if this is not possible coordinate with C-19 for alternative solution.

OUTDOOR:

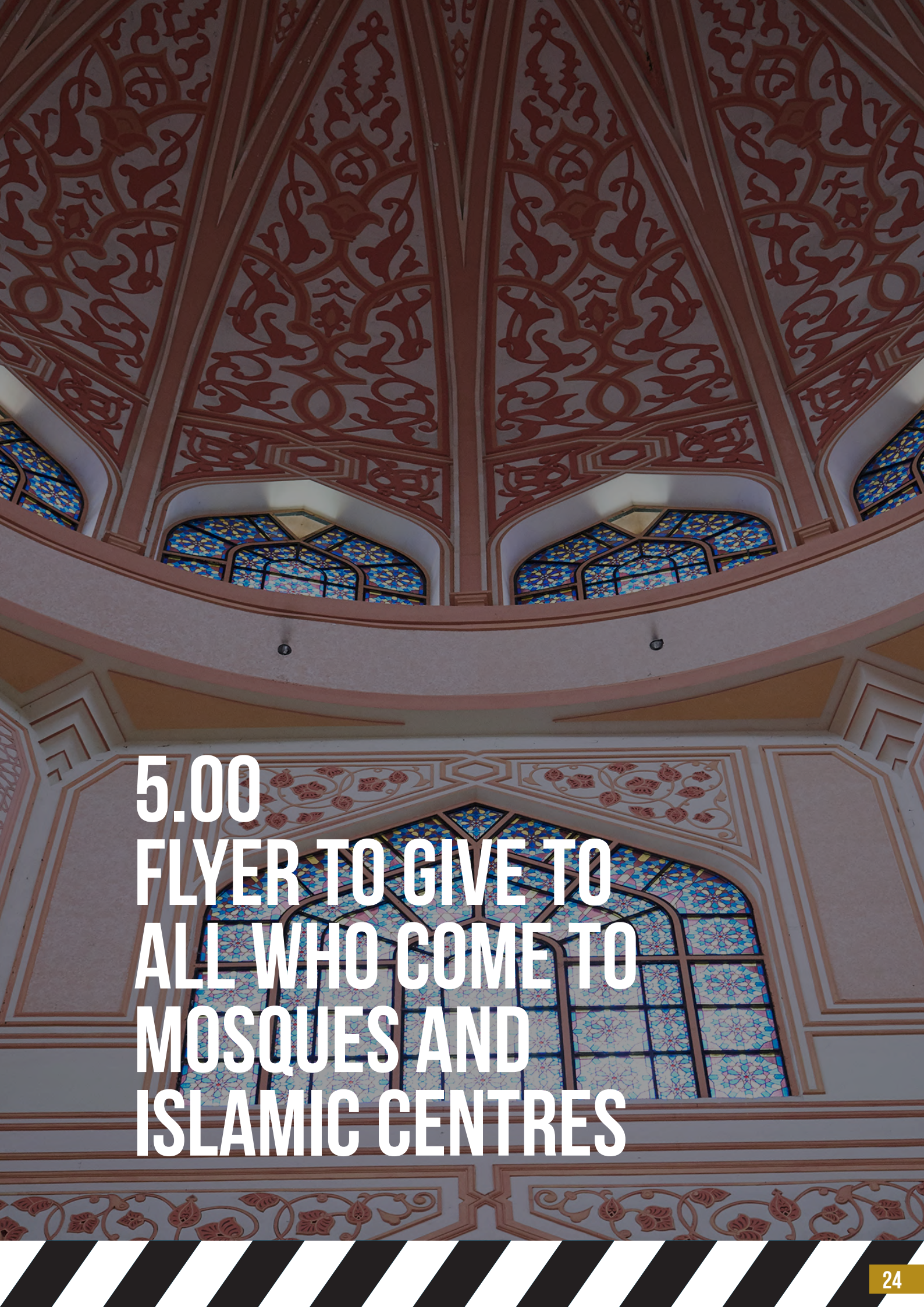
For outdoor gatherings, it is essential to provide a different plan of action; some aspects to take into considerations are:

- Entry/exit points are clearly identified.
- People are informed of basic hygiene requirements such as wearing socks and bringing their own prayer mats. Wearing masks is not mandatory but is strongly advised, especially when social distancing cannot be maintained.
- Areas for prayer are marked and easy to identify. C-19 Officer will provide the volunteers with instructions on how to mark the suitable areas.
- Ensure congregations respect prayers start times and the number of people attending is compliant with the COVID-19 Protection Framework.
- Area where the gathering is taking place is in a defined space, safely protected from possible other risks.

4.3 - ACTION POINTS FOR DEEP CLEAN OF MOSQUES AND ISLAMIC CENTRES

DEEP CLEAN – CHECKLIST – KEY TASKS	COMPLETED/DATE
Surfaces - All surfaces that are touched by attendees should be getting regularly cleaned with a suitable disinfectant, including sinks, toilets, kitchen surfaces and carpets.	
Cloths/sponges - Disposable cloths should preferably be used, or reusable cloths that are disinfected after each use.	
Carpet and soft furnishings - Steam cleaning is effective against germs on carpets and furnishings. Curtains can be cleaned by laundering or disinfected by steam cleaning.	
Ventilation - The building and rooms should always be kept well ventilated.	
Dishes/crockery – Take care to thoroughly clean when hand washing dishes / crockery, or ideally use a dishwasher. Wash brushes in a dishwasher regularly or clean with detergent and warm water after each use.	
Kitchen - Ensure food preparation surfaces are clean before use and clean surfaces immediately after use. Clean sinks frequently, if they're used regularly.	
Toilets - Use a toilet cleaner and brush every few days. Keep the toilet seat, handle and rim clean by using a disinfectant. Paper towels/hand driers only to be used in the toilet, no shared towels	
Entrances - Tissues, bin and hand gel to be provided at entrances	
Waste disposal - Foot-operated bins are more hygienic because they reduce the risk of getting germs onto your hands from touching the bin lid. Always wash your hands after handling waste material.	
Ghasul area and Funeral equipment and vehicle – These should be deep cleaned after each use.	

- Its highly recommended all Masjid and Islamic Centres maintain a minimum deep cleaning frequency of 1-2 times per week going forward
- Deep cleaning to be outsourced to professional commercial cleaning companies
- Extra budget needs to be allocated to Masjid cleaning and availability of cleaning materials
- Toilets and Wudu areas should be cleaned at least once per day
- Surfaces touched by attendees should be cleaned once per day using the Covid19 spray (Glen 20).
- Recommended each Masjid appoint a caretaker/Mu'athin
- The above vaccination rules also apply to funeral services. They should be displayed as well as be provided to the family of the deceased.
- If the family of deceased cannot provide Vaccine Pass for all people attending or if it is a death due to Covid19, NZMA will help arrange a registered Funeral Director at the family's cost.



**5.00
FLYER TO GIVE TO
ALL WHO COME TO
MOSQUES AND
ISLAMIC CENTRES**



MASJID AND ISLAMIC CENTRES MUST ENSURE TO:

- Provide QR scanning facilities in place
- Provide manual registers, for people who are unable to scan QR code
- Download NZ Pass Verifier app for verifying Vaccine Pass
- Allow vaccinated people to enter the mosque and Wardens should be checking the Vaccine Pass at Masjid entrance during Jumu'ah.
- Display posters or signage indicating that a My Vaccine Pass is required.
- Provide information on how to wear masks correctly, including during the salat
- Have disposable masks available for public to wear in Masjid and Islamic Centres
- Provide rubbish bins for the safe disposal of masks

PRE-PRAYER REQUIREMENTS:

- You must ensure you have your vaccine pass
- You must scan the QR code or manually register
- You should avoid hand-shakes and use non-contact greeting methods
- You should use hand sanitiser to clean hands before entry
- Masks must be worn at all times
- You should wear socks to prevent contact with carpet
- You should bring your own prayer mat
- You should do your ablution(wudu) at home

DURING PRAYER:

- You should enter the prayer area via designated entry points
- You should maintain physical distance while praying
- You should only pray on your own prayer mat
- You should only perform your fardh/obligatory prayer (all nafl/optional prayers are to be performed at home)
- You should complete all obligatory prayers and leave within the shortest possible time (different timelines will apply for Friday Jummah Prayers)

POST PRAYER:

- You should exit via the designated exit points
- You should continue to wear a mask at all times while on the mosque premises
- You should avoid congregating after prayer is finished.

STAY HOME IF:

- You are unwell and/or have any of the COVID-19 symptoms. Please call Healthline or contact your GP about appropriate advice on getting a COVID-19 test
- You have a chronic condition e.g chronic heart or lung disease, you are taking immunosuppressant drugs, etc.
- You are above 70 years of age
- You are unvaccinated



EXAMPLE OF ADVISORY OF NZ MUSLIM ASSOCIATION (AUCKLAND)

TRAFFIC LIGHT (PROTECTION FRAMEWORK) ADVISORY FOR MOSQUES

LEVELS	BEHAVIOUR & MEASURES (GOVT)	MASJID ATTENDANCE AND CONGREGATIONAL PRAYERS
Red	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Record keeping and scanning required - Face coverings mandatory on flights, public transport, taxis, retail, public venues, recommended whenever leaving the house - 1m physical distancing - Work from home encouraged - Retail open with capacity limits - Public facilities open up to 100 people <p>With Vaccination certificates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hospitality, gatherings (weddings, place of worship), events, gyms: Open for up to 100 people - Close contact business: With public health requirements <p>Without Vaccination certificates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hospitality: Contactless only - Gatherings(weddings, place of worship): Up to 25 people - Events, gyms: Not able to operate - Close contact business: Not able to operate 	<p>Masjid opens with restrictions and subject to approval</p> <p>General Guidelines at Level Red</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Vaccination certificates are required on entry - Only vaccinated people will be allowed inside the mosque - Wearing masks will be mandatory - 1M distance must be maintained between each person - Attendees must bring their own prayer mat - Any person with flu symptoms will be turned away - International travelers must stay home, if they are required to self-isolate - All above guidelines are also applicable to funeral services. - Overnight stay will not be allowed in the Masjid <p>Daily & Jumu'ah Prayers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Daily prayers capped at 100 persons per session. Multiple sessions maybe required - Jumu'ah capped at 100 persons per session. Multiple sessions maybe required - Only 12+ years will be allowed for Jum'ah prayers
Orange	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Record keeping and scanning required - Face coverings mandatory on flights, public transport, taxis, retail, public venues, encouraged elsewhere - 1m physical distancing - Retail and public facilities open with capacity limits - Education open with public health measures <p>With Vaccination certificates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hospitality, gatherings (weddings, place of worship), events, close contact business: No limits 	<p>Masjid opens with restrictions</p> <p>General Guidelines at Level Orange</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Vaccination certificates required on entry - Only vaccinated people will be allowed inside the mosque - Any person with flu symptoms will be turned away - International travelers must stay home, if they are required to self-isolate - Overnight stay will not be allowed in the Masjid



<p>Orange</p>	<p>Without Vaccination certificates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hospitality: Contactless only - Gatherings(weddings, place of worship): Up to 50 people - Events, gyms, close contact business: Not able to operate 	<p>Daily & Jumu'ah Prayers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No restrictions on numbers.
<p>Green</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Record keeping and scanning required - Face coverings mandatory on flights, encouraged indoors - Retail, public facilities, workplaces and education open <p>With Vaccination certificates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hospitality, gatherings (weddings, place of worship), events, close contact business: No limits <p>Without Vaccination certificates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hospitality, Gatherings(weddings, place of worship), events, gyms: Up to 100 people and 1m distancing - Close contact business: Face covering for staff and 1m distancing 	<p>Masjid opens with restrictions</p> <p>General Guidelines at Level Orange</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Vaccination certificates required on entry - Any person with flu symptoms will be turned away - International travelers must stay home, if they are required to self-isolate <p>Daily & Jumu'ah Prayers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No restrictions on numbers



COVID-19 NOTICE - PUBLIC HEALTH REQUIREMENTS

Who should be coming to the Masjid during these alert levels?

1. Only come to the Masjid if you have been fully vaccinated as vaccination certificate will be required for entry.
2. Only come to the Masjid if you are in good health and free of any COVID-19 like symptoms.
3. Any person with flu symptoms will be turned away without any hesitation; please don't risk others in your community.
4. International travelers must stay home, if they are required to self-isolation.
5. If you are suffering from illness i.e. Cancer, Alzheimer's disease, congestive heart failure, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, dementia, heart disease, liver disease or chronic diabetes we strongly urge you stay home until the Pandemic is cleared.

How can I prepare to come to the Masjid during these alert levels?

1. Bring your own prayer mats to Masjid, wear clean socks to ensure carpets are clean, make Wudu at home and preferably shower before coming to the Masjid.
2. Ensure you keep a hand sanitizer inside your car and clean your hands before coming to the Masjid and clean your hands as you leave the Masjid.

What are the expected behaviors inside the Masjid during these alert levels?

1. No hugs, No handshakes, No physical contact and no unnecessary congregations or com motion.
2. Pray Sunnah at home. Only attend Fardh prayers at the Masjid.
3. Imams are expected to keep prayers short i.e. recitation of short surahs only, Jumu'ah Khutbahs will be short, so please show patience.
4. Bring your own water bottles, handkerchiefs, tissues and hand sanitizers to use at the Masjid. The Masjid committee will provide some at the premises too.

How do I keep productive during Isolation period, to remove frustration and anxiety?

1. Learn the art of silence. Take 20 minutes out to be silent and to think about your life.
2. Rethink your habits (make a list). Try to order your day to do specific tasks at specific times.
3. Spend 30 minutes a day reading Qur'an and its meaning.
4. Spend 45mins a day following an exercise regime from YouTube, exercise apps etc.
5. Spend "quality-time" with your partners, children and parents.
6. Organize online conference calls with friends and family (Skype, Zoom, Messenger etc).
7. Sign up to online courses. Use this time for substantial self-development.
8. Learn a language. Catch up on learning Arabic (loads of "Free" resources online).



**The Federation of
Islamic Associations
of New Zealand (Inc.)**

اتحاد الجمعيات الإسلامية النيوزيلندية

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