

## **St Georges Church Stamford– policy for use of buildings**

The church's facilities were provided through God's benevolence and by the generosity of church members. The church desires that its facilities be used for the fellowship of the Body of Christ and always to God's glory. Although the facilities are not generally open to the public, we make our facilities available to approved non-member persons and groups as a witness to our faith, in a spirit of Christian charity, and as a means of demonstrating the Gospel of Jesus Christ in practice.

However, facility use will not be permitted to persons or groups holding, advancing, or advocating beliefs, or advocating, or engaging in practices that conflict with the church's teachings. The Rector, or his official designee, is the final decision-maker on whether a person or group is allowed to use church facilities.

The following list aims to clarify the types of events that will be permitted. It is important to note that regular Church Ministries and activities will always take priority and that careful consideration will be given to these events planned in the calendar prior to agreeing additional usage particularly in the case of organisations external to the Church.

**Regular Church Ministries** held on a daily, weekly, monthly and annual basis.

**Social Events** linked to a specific Church Ministry e.g. CAP Pancake Day, fundraising concerts supporting the mission of the church

**Events** linked to a baptism, funeral or wedding of a church family member.

**Partnership Events** – events not necessarily organised by St George's but with the aim of promoting the gospel through partnership across Christian denominations e.g. Churches Together Conference, Street Pastors training.

**Strategic Events** – events in partnership with key strategic organisations across the town who link directly into our work and provide opportunities for the promotion of the gospel through evangelism e.g. circus skills SKDC, local Schools and Colleges.

**Church Building** – consideration may be given to occasional one off events / concerts by agreement with the Rector.

Whilst we do not charge for the use of our buildings in the event of a large event we would ask the user to consider making a donation to the church for the use of its facilities.

Purely social events including birthday parties cannot be supported.