

**United Synagogue**

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Registered Charity No. 242552

**Levoyas (lit. accompanying [the deceased]) – The Funeral**

These guidelines for funerals have changed to be in line with government guidelines published on 19<sup>th</sup> December 2020 together with the relevant lifting of restrictions on 17<sup>th</sup> May 2021.

In order to avoid the potential spread of the virus, the United Synagogue Burial Society requests that attendance at levoyas be currently limited to a maximum of 50 attendees, including the mourners (Aveilim) plus the officiating Rabbi.

No one may attend if they have any (even slight) symptoms of Coronavirus.

Mourners who are asymptomatic but self-isolating, having been told to do so by NHS Test and Trace, can attend the levoya of their family member. However, they must advise the Burial office in advance of their intention to attend.

Non-mourners who are self-isolating must not attend.

All attendees should travel to the cemetery alone or with someone from their household.

Individuals might consider livestreaming funerals in order to allow others to be included. Please [click here](#) for the funeral service.

All funerals will be held outdoors and people will be asked to stand 2m (at least 6 feet) apart from one another. Attendees are not required to wear masks, however it is essential that social distancing is maintained throughout the service, including walking to and from the graveside. Everyone should wash their hands according to best practice immediately before and after the levoya. Water fountains are operational however we are not providing vessels to fill with water. Please use hand sanitiser after operating the taps. No transport will be provided. Only mourners will be able to approach the grave and asked to put in earth. All other attendees must remain on nearby paths, staying appropriately socially distanced. Eulogies should not total more than 10 minutes in order to minimise the time spent by attendees together.

A one way system is in operation at cemeteries. Please follow instructions between the car parks and prayer halls, maintaining social distancing at all times. Please do not arrive at the prayer halls more than 10 minutes in advance of the funeral.

**President:** Michael Goldstein

**Treasurer:** Maxwell Nisner

**Trustees:** Andrew Eder, Claire Lemer, Fleurise Lewis, Nicola Rosenfelder, Barry Shaw, Saul Taylor, Jacqui Zinkin

**Chief Executive:** Steven Wilson



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**Stonesettings (Hakamat Matzevot)**

Stonesetting ceremonies are taking place. Attendance at stonesettings will currently be limited to a maximum of 30 attendees including the mourners (Aveilim), plus the officiating Rabbi. Please refer to the section on funerals for detailed restrictions on attendees.

Individuals might consider livestreaming stonesettings in order to allow others to be included. Please [click here](#) for the stone setting service.

All stonesettings will be held outdoors and people will be asked to stand 2m (at least 6 feet) apart from one another. Attendees are not required to wear masks, however it is essential that social distancing is maintained throughout the service, including walking to and from the graveside. Everyone should wash their hands according to best practice immediately before and after the stone setting. Water fountains are operational however we are not providing vessels to fill with water. Please use hand sanitiser after operating the taps. No transport will be provided. Only mourners can approach the grave. All other attendees must remain on nearby paths, staying appropriately socially distanced. Eulogies should not total more than 10 minutes in order to minimise the time spent by attendees together.

A one way system is in operation at cemeteries, please follow instructions between the car parks and prayer halls maintaining social distancing at all times. Please do not arrive at the prayer halls more than 10 minutes in advance of the stonesetting.

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Celebrating 150 Years

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