



## Hire Policy

1. Consistent with Diocesan guidance, the Parochial Church Council of the Parish of St Gabriel's, Warwick Square has decided that the Church and the vestry hall (which is part of the church buildings) may from time to time be subject to casual hire by suitable third parties, subject to the criteria described in this document.
2. All hires of the Church and vestry hall will be governed by Canons F15 and F16 of the Church of the England, as set out below:

### Canon F15

*The churchwardens and their assistants shall not suffer the church or chapel to be profaned by any meeting therein for temporal objects inconsistent with the sanctity of the place*

### Canon F16

*1. When any church or chapel is to be used for a play, concert, or exhibition of films or pictures, the minister shall take care that the **words, music, and pictures are such as befit the House of God, are consonant with sound doctrine, and make for the edifying of the people.***

*2. The minister shall obey any general directions relating to such use of a church or chapel issued from time to time by the bishop or other the Ordinary.*

*3. No play, concert, or exhibition of films or pictures shall be held in any church or chapel except the minister have first consulted the local or other authorities concerned with the precautions against fire and other dangers required by the law to be taken in the case of performances of plays, concerts, or exhibitions of cinematograph films, and the said authorities have signified that the proposed arrangements are a sufficient compliance with the regulations in force as to precautions against fire or other dangers.*

*4. If any doubt arises as to the manner in which the preceding clauses of this Canon are to be observed, the minister shall refer the matter to the bishop or other the Ordinary, and obey his directions therein.*

3. All hires will be made through the Parish Administrator, who will consult the Vicar or Churchwardens in respect of any hire which appears likely to raise issues under either of the relevant Canons quoted above.
4. All hires will be made in accordance with the PCC's current Safeguarding and Health and Safety Policy, and after an appropriate Risk Assessment by the hirer. These policies are available on the Parish website (<http://stgabrielspimlico.com/>)

The Vicar and PCC reserve the right not to hire facilities to organisations or individuals not approved by them or not recommended to them by a church member acting as guarantor.

The PCC and Vicar reserve the right not to hire church facilities to other Christian denominations or religious groups, or permit to be undertaken or promoted other activities not considered acceptable by the PCC and/or Vicar.

### **Political Parties hiring Church Facilities**

Hiring the church facilities for political purposes or by serving or prospective politicians / councillors is at the discretion of the Vicar and Churchwardens.

### **Liability**

The Church will not be held liable for any injuries or loss incurred by the hirer or their guests/clients while on the premises.

5. All hires will be subject to agreed terms and conditions, which will be deemed to include the criteria set out in this policy.

**January 2020**