

# The Anglican Diocese of Nelson



## Pastoral Care 'Bubbles' – Alert Level 3 Policy and Procedure for Parishes

*Approved as at 22 April 2020*

**For more information or advice contact the  
Health and Safety Coordinator on 021 722 013.**

Under Alert Level 3, people may expand their 'Bubbles' so that an elderly family member living on their own, or two friends on their own can become a bubble and provide support to each other.

We may have people in our Diocesan family who are on their own and lonely and don't have family nearby. Parishes may be able to match the person to another bubble in the Parish, provided it is safe to do so.

### Policy

This policy is for parishes in the Anglican Diocese of Nelson to use, to 'match' people who may need ongoing pastoral care support into a bubble within the Parish.

- The Pastoral Care bubbles should be coordinated by the Vicar, the Pastoral Care Coordinator, the Parish Nurse, the Elder Care Coordinator or another trusted member of the Parish.
- Clergy should only be added to another bubble if they are well with no underlying health issues, and if their children are staying home from school. Clergy shouldn't be in multiple bubbles.
- The Parish should keep a register of bubbles to make sure people aren't in multiple bubbles and that the bubbles are appropriate and safe.
- People may only be in one bubble, e.g. one pastoral care volunteer matched to one elderly person. People can't be in multiple bubbles.
- People can't change bubbles during Alert Level 3. They must remain loyal to their bubble.
- People who are sick or unwell shouldn't expand their bubbles.
- People in rest homes or care facilities can't expand their bubbles.
- People who receive regular home visits or support from a home care worker shouldn't expand their bubbles or join a Pastoral care bubble.
- People with children should only expand their bubbles if their children stay at home and don't go to school.
- People providing Pastoral Care in a bubble should ideally be police checked, reference checked and trained in SafeHere, or be a trusted member of the Church community.
- If you're unsure, phone the Health and Safety Coordinator on 021 722 013 for advice.

### Examples:

A young married couple with no children or family in the area are 'matched' with a single older person who lives nearby and also has no family in the area. They become a bubble and meet occasionally for meals or walks. The couple do the grocery shopping for the older person.

Two older people with no family in the area become a bubble and meet occasionally for walks or meals or a cup of tea at their home. They stay loyal to their bubble and don't add other family members or friends to their bubble.

A young family with two children expand their bubble to include their elderly grandparent. Because their elderly grandparent is in their bubble they keep the children home from school.