



Dear Jonas friends,

It is with a heavy heart that I write to inform you that we have taken the inevitable decision to close The Jonas Centre temporarily from 25th March 2020. The health, welfare and wellbeing of our guests, volunteers and staff is our top priority. Considering the current health concerns surrounding COVID-19 and the government's public advice on stopping all non-essential contact and travel, it is the only decision.

We recognise that people want to get outside both for exercise and connections to nature, BUT we are asking people to follow Government advice. At present the advice is to:

- Keep outside activity local (STAY AT HOME)
- Practice [social distancing](#)
- Follow Government advice on [self-isolation](#)

If you are coming to stay with us, we will have been in contact with you to update you on the situation. Any group bookings are now cancelled. We expect that this situation will cover April and May as a minimum, but the situation could change. This decision has not been taken lightly, we know how important staying at The Jonas Centre is to many and we are sad we **won't be able to welcome guests, at least for a little while.**

The Jonas staff team are staying positive during a period of furloughed leave and we will be making sure that the most vulnerable in our area are safe and have enough provisions.

We are grateful to those who have already sent messages of support and donations, to help us weather the storm.

We truly hope it won't be too long before we can start welcoming guests again. Until then, please stay at home, stay safe, protect lives and thank you for understanding.

Our role as a charity

As part of our Subsidised Holidays Ministry, we are seeking to support the national effort by working with the NHS, homelessness groups and other organisations to see how our accommodation and facilities can support both key workers and the most vulnerable members of society.

Keeping in touch

As the situation develops we will update you via our website, through emails, and through social media. You can also email us at stay@jonascentre.org

With best wishes & our prayers

Simon Eastwood.

Simon Eastwood
Centre Director
For and on behalf of the staff & trustees of The Jonas Centre