What if I don't feel comfortable sending my child back to Kidz Town? What will be available for my child?

Our online content will continue to be available for the foreseeable future. We will continue to produce videos and family activities for toddler, preschool and elementary aged children which you can find at https://www.forwardonline.ca/kidz-town. Also, our family break rooms and kid's activity bags will still be available on Sunday mornings, and the Kids Moment will continue during the service.

Which volunteers will be in the room with my child?

To ensure we have space for our kids, only adult volunteers will be permitted in the classrooms at this time. However, youth volunteers may help in supporting roles outside of the classroom (helping kids find their class, etc.). Each volunteer will complete a health screening as well as a clearance screening (police check, reference checks, etc.)

Can I volunteer in Kidz Town?

We have roles available for adults and students in Grade 6 and older. If you are interested in volunteering with our online curriculum or in person at the Cambridge site, please contact Neil at neilm@forwardchurch.ca. If you are interested in volunteering in person at the Kitchener site please contact Kristen at kristenc@forwardchurch.ca

Will volunteers be required to wear masks?

Yes, volunteers will be required to wear masks in accordance with the Region of Waterloo Face Covering By-Law.

Will children be required to wear masks?

Yes, the Region of Waterloo Face Covering By-Law states that all children age 5+ are required to wear masks unless they fall into an exemption category.

Which rooms will we use for Kidz Town?

Cambridge – All children, JK to grade 5, will be using the Cameron Hall Wing. They will have 5 cohorts: 1 in the library, 1 in the "locker room" (room 103) and 3 in Cameron Hall (room will be divided into three).

Kitchener – In order to safely physically distance, we will be using additional space in the Edelweiss Tavern behind the Auditorium. There will only be one Kidz Town cohort/class in Kitchener for JK-Grade 5.

What is a cohort?

Cambridge - A cohort is the children your child will be grouped with each Sunday. We will establish the cohorts and keep them same as much as possible from week to week. That means your child will be with the same group of children each week.

Kitchener – According to the guidelines provided by the Ontario Ministry, we are permitted to have up to 15 children, plus leaders in a room assuming they each have 2m^2 of space. In Kitchener we can accomplish this with the use of one room, which means all children attending Kidz Town will be in the same class.

How many kids will be in each room?

The number of children in each classroom will be based on the size of the room. Each person in the room will have a minimum of 2m^2 of space, including the 2 adult volunteers. Each room will have no more than 15 people in the class.

How are you navigating small groups and large group?

At this time, all children will remain in a small group setting. This will reduce the number of people your child will interact with, while maximizing the time spent with their cohort members.

How are the rooms being cleaned?

Our trained Forward custodial staff will ensure the rooms are cleaned according to the required regulation prior to their use. We are adhering to all the safety protocols with regards to cleaning as established by our federal, provincial and regional governments.

What is the protocol for bathrooms usage and cleaning?

Cambridge - Cohorts will not be using the bathrooms at the same time. We will be following the same cleaning protocol already established at Forward Church.

Kitchener - All children will be using a separate bathroom designated for them. This means that only other children will be using the washroom and they will not be in contact with anyone outside of their cohort. The washroom will be thoroughly cleaned before the beginning of service and again of more than 5 children use the bathroom.

What kind of symptoms are you screening my child for?

The symptoms we will be screening for can be found on the government of Ontario website at https://www.ontario.ca/page/covid-19-stop-spread#section-0

How will I know if a leader or another child in my child's cohort tests positive for covid-19?

If a child or leader from your child's cohort tests positive for covid-19 you will be contacted either by the Region of Waterloo or a Forward Church staff member or by both.

What happens if a child develops symptoms of COVID-19 while they are in Kidz Town?

If a child develops symptoms of COVID-19 while they are in Kidz Town, we will immediately move them, along with any siblings, to a room designated for isolation. We will notify the first aid team on duty that morning and contact the parent or guardian to come for their child(ren) immediately. The child will not be left alone in the isolation room but will have two leaders present with them at a safe distance.

What will my child be doing in Kidz Town?

Kidz Town is children's ministry where kids learn about God while having fun together. Kids will be learning a Bible lesson following our current curriculum (The Gospel Project) with dancing, singing, crafts and more.

What age groups are open in Kidz Town?

Kidz Town will be open for all children in Junior Kindergarten to Grade 5. Unfortunately, we are unable to make any exceptions.

Why isn't Kidz Town open for kids younger than Junior Kindergarten?

One of the requirements of re-opening Kidz Town is that we keep kids 2m (6ft apart) as much as possible. Younger kids are generally unable to maintain this physical distance. We want them to remain safe and have a positive Kidz Town experience, where they are not constantly being told to keep away from others.

What can my child bring into Kidz Town with them?

We know that this is a tough time for children. If your child would like to bring a comfort item, they are more than welcome to, if they are able to hold onto it for the whole time and it is not posing much of a distraction. Please do not bring food items.

Will snacks be served in Kidz Town?

At this time, we will not be serving snacks in Kidz Town. If your child requires a snack for a medical reason, please talk to Neil or Kristen and we would be more than happy to make an exception.

Do I need to register ahead of time?

Yes, this will help us greatly to provide a smoother check in process, plan cohorts ahead of time and to ensure we have enough rooms and leaders available.

Where will I register?

You can register your child for Kidz Town using the same link you use to register your family for in person gatherings on Sunday mornings. The link is available on our website every Tuesday and shared through our social media channels and the weekly~~,~~ What's Happening Email. You can also call the church and we would be happy to help you with registration.

I forgot to register ahead of time, can my child still come?

While we strongly suggest you register ahead of time, we will always allow your child to attend Kidz Town if we are still within our allowable numbers and ratios.

I still have questions, who should I talk to?

If you would like to know information about our Cambridge site, please talk to Neil at neilm@forwardchurch.ca. If you would like to know more information about our Kitchener site, please talk to Kristen at kristenc@forwardchurch.ca