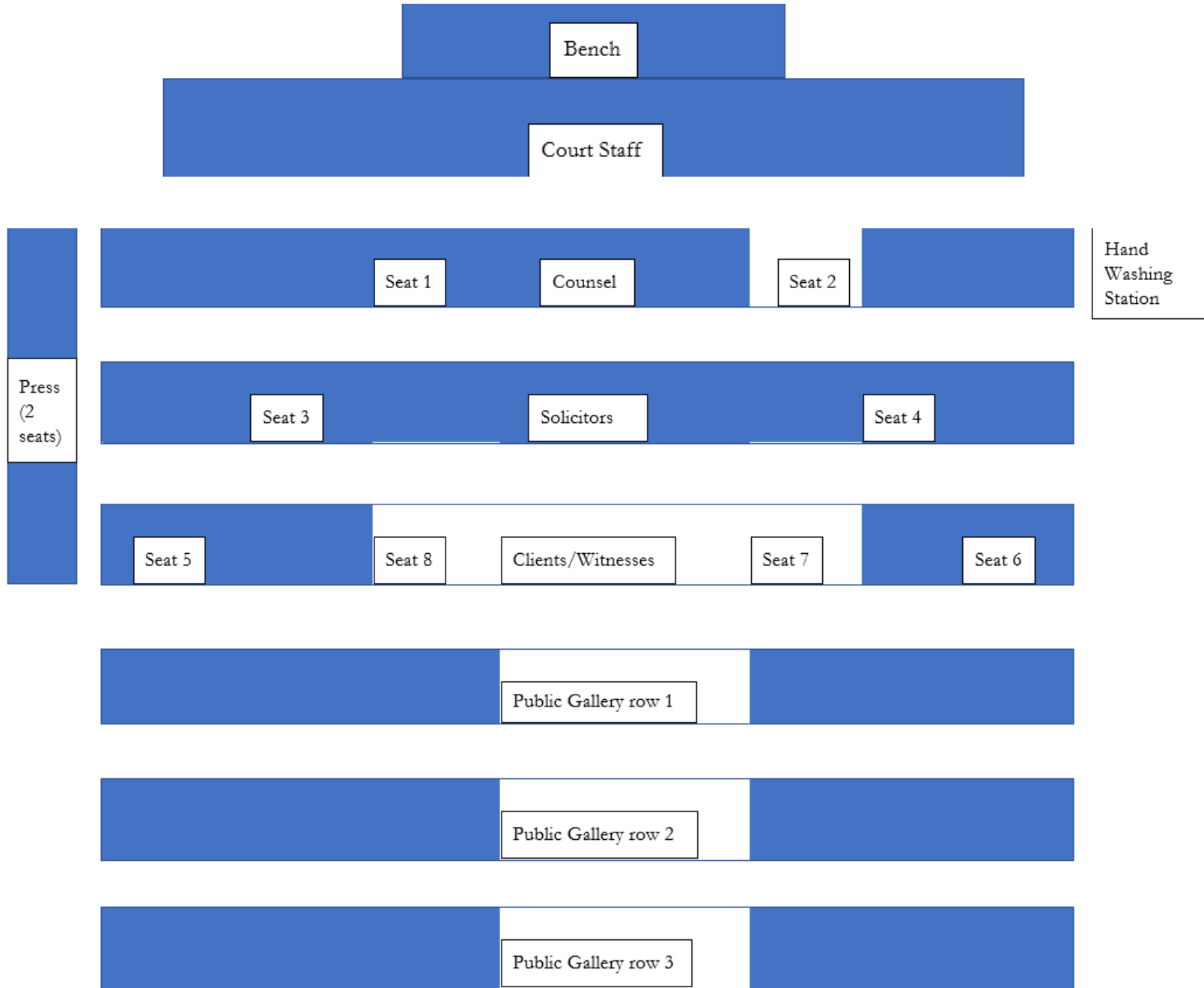


## **Protocol for hearing of C v University Hospital Southampton NHS Trust**

1. This protocol is intended to assist all participants in the proceedings to maintain social distancing.
2. The hearing will take place in court 73 in the East Block of the Royal Courts of Justice. The court has been selected because of its size and location. The routes to the East Block second floor landing are sufficiently wide (particularly if the RCJ entrance on Bell Yard is used) to facilitate social distancing. However, the corridor from the landing to the court is narrow.
3. The doors to the court room will be propped open at the start and end of each court session (but closed during each court session). In order to minimise the need for people to pass one another in the corridor, the Claimant's legal team and witnesses should aim to assemble in court at least 20 minutes (but no more than 30 minutes) before the start of each court session. The Defendant's legal team and witnesses should aim to assemble in court at least 10 minutes (but no more than 20 minutes) before the start of each court session.
4. At the end of each court session participants will leave the court room in whatever order is convenient, but they are asked (a) to do so in a way that maintains social distancing, and (b) not to return to the courtroom until the next court session, so as to avoid passing others in the narrow corridor. There is no prohibition on entering or leaving court during each court session, but it is desirable to minimise the traffic in the corridor.
5. The courtroom has been marked out in a way that ensures that all seats are 2 metres apart. A plan is attached (with a key showing suggested allocation of the seats). Please do not move any of the seats without speaking to a member of court staff.
6. Washrooms are a short distance from the courtroom, signposted from the main landing. There is a "washing station" close to the court door. Hand sanitiser will be available. This may be used before, during and after court sessions as court users wish. It reduces the need for court users to leave court during the hearing to wash their hands.
7. All participants may use mobile telephones for text (or equivalent) communication during the hearing, provided that they are switched to silent.
8. A separate witness bundle should be prepared for each witness, and should be taken into the witness box by that witness. The legal representatives are to ensure that each witness has available to them a copy of the witness oath/affirmation and, if appropriate, a Holy Book.
9. Separate arrangements will be made for witnesses who are attending remotely. It is likely that this will be by use of Skype for Business within the Court room. Anyone wishing to see the witness will need their own laptop. A test will be carried out after court on 8 June 2020.
10. If any person participating in the proceedings has any questions or concerns, please raise them with me via an email to my clerk: [email address given]



## **Seating arrangement key**

Seat 1: Counsel for Claimant

Seat 2: Leading Counsel for Defendant

Seat 3: Solicitor for Claimant

Seat 4: Solicitor for Defendant

Seat 5: Not used

Seat 6: Available for Defendant's use

Seat 7: Not used

Seat 8: Claimant's parents (two seats have been provided which are next to each other but socially distanced from other seats)

Additional seating is available in the public gallery.