



Kirkby Team Ministry

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MEMORIAL REGULATIONS

This information sheet contains general advice about memorials in church yards as set out by the Diocese of Liverpool and is applicable to St Chad's Church Yard.

The right to erect a memorial

There is no general right to erect a memorial or to add an inscription to an existing one. Appropriate permission must be obtained first. Memorials that do not comply with the Diocesan churchyard regulations will require a faculty to be granted only after all the relevant procedures have been completed, including the payment of a fee.

Materials, size and design

Anyone wishing to know what is permitted in a particular churchyard should check first with the incumbent (Team Rector) whether any special conditions apply. A churchyard is not an appropriate setting for modern materials such as concrete, glass, steel or plastic, especially as they do not weather attractively. Wood is not a lasting material either.

Dimensions should be between 750mm (2ft 6in) and 1200mm (4ft) high; between 500mm (1ft 8in) and 900mm (3ft) wide; and between 75mm (3in) and 150mm (6in) thick. Stones must be fixed securely in the interests of safety. The base should project no further than 100mm (4in) beyond the stone in any direction. If a flower receptacle is permitted, a larger projection of up to 200mm (8in) may be allowed with receptacle flush with the top of the base.

Shapes, such as hearts or open books, are not permitted, nor is the incorporation of photographs in a memorial. Kerb stones, plastic fencing, chippings or ornaments are not allowed, not least because they are a safety hazard.

Inscriptions

Wording should be simple and reverent, for instance appropriate quotations from the bible and other literary sources. Later additions to an inscription should be consistent with the original, in size, style and quality of execution and require specific approval.

Although informality is more common today, the use of over familiar or colloquial terms on memorials is not appropriate for what is a public statement. Parish regulations may be introduced after open discussion in the PCC and then followed consistently.

Memorials for cremated remains

The Liverpool diocese does not allow individual memorials for cremated remains but names may be entered in a memorials book in the church if so wished. This does not prevent flowers being placed in containers provided at times of anniversaries. Bottles, jam jars, and the like are not permitted.