

All Hallows' Church, Kirkburton

Rules governing graves, monuments and memorial stones in our Churchyard

These regulations are taken from those laid down by the Diocese of Leeds and which are published on their website. They are designed to help with the management of the churchyards, to encourage good practice and ensure that they are preserved for the benefit and enjoyment of the whole parish and local community. Local stonemasons and undertakers are aware of these regulations and will deal with the necessary approvals and fees.

The incumbent (vicar) has the authority to permit the introduction of a headstone which is sympathetic with the churchyard as a whole and which complies with the following requirements.

1. **Size**

No more than 1200 mm nor less than 750 mm high (4 ft; 2 ft 6 in)

No more than 900 mm nor less than 500 mm wide (3 ft; 1 ft 8 in)

No more than 150 mm nor less than 75 mm thick (6 in; 3 in)

No more than 12 x 12in for Memorial Interment of Ashes tablets

In the case of infant burials, no less than 600 mm x 375 mm x 50 mm (2 ft x 1 ft 3 in x 2 in)

2. **Base**

A base forming an integral part of the design of a headstone may be included, provided it does not project more than 50 mm (2 in) beyond the headstone in any direction and provided that it is fixed on a foundation slab of an approved material which itself is fixed flush with the ground and extending 75mm to 125mm(3 in to 5 in) all round so that a mower may freely pass over it.

3. **Materials**

The following stone is permitted:

Limestone:	Derbyshire Ravensworth	Derbyshire Fossil
Sandstone:	Yorkshire Gloucester/Forest of Dean Allswick Blue	Derbyshire – Derby Dale Serena
Slate:	Cumberland North Lancashire	Westmoreland
Granite:	Bluehill Grey	Cornish Grey

Cumbrian Grey
Karin Grey
New North Grey
Creetown

Devon Grey
Indian Grey
South African Dark Grey

4. ***Appearance***

Polished stone or mirror finish is not permitted.

5. ***Inscriptions***

Photographs or representations of objects or motifs such as a child's toy are not permitted nor the use of 'pet names'. Bronze or ceramic inserts are not to be used. Badges, crests or emblems may be used provided they are seemly and appropriate for the deceased. Any representation will need to be designed so that it may be accurately cut by a skilled craftsman. Masons' or carpenters' names, signs or marks may be inscribed on any monument provided their position and appearance are unobtrusive having regard to the monument as a whole. Incised lettering may be painted in gold, silver, matt white, matt black or matt grey. Plastic inserted lettering is not permitted.

6. ***Crematory Remains***

Unless cremated remains are buried in an existing grave, they are interred in our ashes plot at the top of the new churchyard. It is not necessary to have a memorial stone, but should you choose to do so, then it should be 300mm (12 inches) square, properly bedded in and laid flat with the ground so that a mower can pass over the top of it. There should be nothing around the memorial stone and vases for flowers are not permitted. Materials should be in line with the list above for other memorials and inscriptions limited to the name of the deceased and dates of birth and death.

6. ***Position***

No memorial may be erected within 3 metres of the outer wall of the church building save by authority of a faculty.

7. ***Fixture***

Regard must be had to health and safety concerns, and to current industry standards for the fixing of monuments safely and securely.

8. ***Crosses***

An incumbent may NOT consent to the introduction of a cross. Such monuments require a high standard of design. However, the incumbent may authorise the temporary introduction of a simple wooden cross no more than 12 inches in height to mark a recent burial. Such cross must be removed upon the erection of

a stone memorial or after a period of 18 months, whichever be the sooner.

Prohibitions

- 9 For the avoidance of doubt, the following are not permitted:
- i. kerbs, railings, fencing, chippings, pebbles and similar materials, and free-standing vases. These create difficulty or danger when mowing;
 - ii. memorials in the shape of vases, hearts, open books;
 - iii. memorials incorporating photographs or portraits;
 - iv. mementoes, windmills, toys or little animals, solar lamps or similar;
 - v. the use of 'pet names'
 - vi. artificial flowers.

Commonwealth War Graves

11. Graves of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission are marked by memorial headstones of a distinctive design and size, indicating their particular significance.

Important Notes

14. **The Incumbent has no authority to permit the erection of a memorial which does not comply with these Regulations. Any non-compliant memorial (whether or not the incumbent has purported to give his authority) may be removed by order of the consistory court.**
15. **A faculty may be sought for the erection of a memorial which does not comply with these Regulations. Such petitions are actively encouraged. Each case will be considered on its individual merits and the views and policies of the Incumbent and PCC will be taken into account. The opinion of the DAC will also be sought.**