

Religious Observance

Agreed Aims and Objectives

Through a planned pattern of Religious Observance we hope to encourage young people to think about and question what they experience in order to build up for themselves foundations of spiritual belief and values. We would encourage a 'caring and sharing' attitude in accordance with the school ethos, which is to promote consideration for other people's views, needs, feelings and property.

Chaplains

Kirkwall Grammar School has a chaplaincy team composed of local ministers. They are prepared to work alongside Class Teachers and pupils in preparing assemblies and will visit classes when asked to discuss relevant topics. The chaplaincy team meets regularly throughout the year with the Principal Teacher of Religious Education and the Head Teacher.

Content

The content of Religious Observance is agreed upon by a group consisting of the Head Teacher, (or his/her appointee), Principal Teacher of Religious Education, all Chaplains, 2 senior pupil representatives and a representative from the Music Department. Other members are co-opted as required.

Religious Observance will be planned in advance for a session at a time. This will include a minimum of 6 assemblies (on an agreed theme) during the year, with other activities devised by the Religious Observance group in co-operation with other pupils and staff. The School Board will be kept informed about the planned pattern of Religious Observance for each session.

Withdrawal

There is a statutory right for parents to withdraw their children from Religious Observance. Parents who wish to exercise their right to withdraw their child from religious instruction and/or observance should contact the head teacher, in writing, and alternative arrangements will be made for your child.

Evaluation

This policy will be reviewed from time to time taking into account suggestions from parents, Parent Council, pupils, staff and Chaplains.