

**Guidelines concerning memorials in St Edmund's Churchyard, approved by the Wootton PCC on 17<sup>th</sup> May, 2023**

1. A minimum period of six months should elapse between the death of a person to be commemorated and the approval of a memorial by the incumbent/designated person.
2. Headstones should be no larger than 120mm (4ft) high, measured from the surface of the ground, 900mm (3ft) wide and 150mm (6in) thick. They should be no less than 750mm (2ft 6in) high, 500mm (1ft 8in) wide and no less than 75mm (3in) thick. Memorials may be of any dimensions within these given maxima and minima.
3. A headstone may stand on a stone base, provided that it is an integral part of the design and does not project more than 102mm (4in) beyond the headstone in any direction, except where a receptacle for flowers is provided, in which case this should be flush with the top of the base and may extend up to 200mm (8in) in front of the headstone.
4. All memorials should be made of natural stone with no reflecting finish, or of hardwood. Stones traditionally used in local buildings, or stones closely similar to them in colour and texture, are to be preferred. Black, blue or red granites are not permitted under these conditions, nor granites darker than Rustenburg grey, nor white, synthetic stone or plastic.

**WHITE OR CREAM STONE IS PREFERRED WITH UNPOLISHED SURFACE.**

5. The following are not permitted: photographs, porcelain portraits, kerbs, railing, chains, chippings or glass shades.

Memorials in the shape of a heart are permitted only by Faculty.

6. Except where the design of a headstone includes an integral receptacle for plants or cut flowers, they may be placed in a removable container, which must be sunk completely into the ground. Wreaths and cut flowers may be placed in such containers or laid on any grave, but must be removed as soon as they appear withered.
7. No artificial flowers are allowed except for Remembrance Day poppies and traditional Christmas wreaths and these should be removed after a period of not more than two months.
8. Bulbs may be planted in the soil of any grave, the creation of gardens on the surface of graves is discouraged.
9. A Garden of Remembrance is available for the interment of cremated remains.

**Smaller Memorials for Children**

10. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in any Churchyard, the relevant Archdeacon may with regard to the death of a child aged 17 years or under at the date of death authorise the introduction of a gravestone, headstone or other memorial stone ("the memorial stone") in respect of any grave of or memorial to such child which is smaller than permitted by such Churchyard Regulations and of such appearance and design as he or she shall think fitting and appropriate in all the circumstances, provided that the memorial stone is not less than 10" (250mm) high, 12" (300mm) wide and 2" (50mm) thick.

In accordance with Churchyard Regulations issued 1/8/2020