

## **Chaplaincy at LGS**

### **1. Chaplaincy Rooms**

To support the work of the Chaplaincy at LGS, there are four rooms:

- St Nicholas Hall, which is the venue for school services.
- The Oasis, which is a small room that any member of the community may use for times of quiet, reflection and prayer.
- The Chaplain's office. Any member of the community is welcome to visit Mr Millward for support in any way.
- The robing room, which is used both by the school prefects, and members of the Chapel Team.

### **2. The Christian foundation of the school**

Leicester Grammar School has a Christian Foundation. The original school site was situated in the city centre next door to Leicester Cathedral, which was used for assemblies and services. When we gather in St Nicholas (our School Hall) for services, many of these are to mark significant Christian seasons, such as Christmas, Ash Wednesday, Lent and Easter. All pupils, regardless of their faith, are expected to attend these services, but they may choose to attend as an observer rather than as a participant. In terms of leadership opportunities, there is a team of pupils who assist with the services in various ways.

The School has a Christian Union that meets on a weekly basis. There are also ad hoc small group Bible studies, and Mr Millward is also happy to offer Baptism or Confirmation Preparation classes.

For any Christian parents who are interested, there is the opportunity to pray for the work of the school. This is normally two or three times a term, and happens online and in person.

### **3. Our Multi cultural, multi faith community**

LGS is a multi-cultural, multi-faith community, and we do all that we can to support our pupils, whatever their religious beliefs. In the services mentioned above, many include multi-faith prayers led by our senior pupils, and we seek to recognise many of the significant holy days in the weekly assemblies.

As we prepare our calendar each year, we look carefully at the dates of religious festivals of all religions and try to avoid clashes wherever possible. In

general, we will look favorably on requests for leave of absence on special holy days throughout the year: please do request this in advance in the usual way. Do get in contact if you feel that we could do more to recognise the significant days and seasons of your faith.

If there are any concerns regarding clothing (eg shorts or swimwear), parents should contact the relevant teacher. The earlier the communication is made, the more chance there will be of coming to a satisfactory arrangement for all.

In addition to the Christian Parent prayer meeting, Mr Millward is happy to organise a more multi faith prayer meeting, if interest is expressed.

Following engagement with Muslim members of our community, there are now procedures in place for pupils to observe their prayer times, and for staff to be aware as pupils observe their season of fasting. Details of these procedures, can be found in the appendix below.

For any queries regarding the information below, please feel free to contact Mr Millward, Lay Chaplain for the LGS Trust, on [millwardp@leicestergrammar.org.uk](mailto:millwardp@leicestergrammar.org.uk)

Philip Millward (Mr)  
Lay Chaplain - Leicester Grammar School Trust

## **Appendix: Support for Muslim prayer**

### **Daily and weekly salah times**

#### **Wudhu**

If pupils wish to make wudhu before praying, there is one ablution facility, and additionally a number of single toilets on site with a sink, where washing may be carried out in privacy. Mr Millward also has a Mudd in his office, if any pupil wishes to use it.

#### **Dhuhr**

A classroom (normally H2) is available at lunchtime for Muslim students to pray. If that room is not free at any time, Mr Millward will seek an alternative venue, and communicate this change to pupils.

#### **Jummah Salah**

H2 is also available on Fridays for corporate prayer, and this is overseen by Mr Millward. Currently pupils meet at 1.15pm for Salat.

### **Asr**

Between November 1<sup>st</sup> and January 31<sup>st</sup> when the days are very short, pupils in Year 10 and above are permitted to absent themselves five minutes early from period 7 and be five minutes late for period 8. This gives them a ten minute opportunity to pray between 2.40pm and 2.50pm to observe Asr. Generally speaking, the school hall, the Oasis, and Mr Millward's office are available for this. More details of this are sent to the parents in advance of that time of year.

### **Ramadan**

LGS is aware of the impact that observing Ramadan can have, especially on younger pupils who are fasting. As such, the following measures are put into place:

- The dates of Ramadan are in the school calendar, so that staff are aware of this as they make plans.
- Mr Millward will compile a list of pupils who are observing Ramadan, which will then be circulated to all staff, so they are aware. The Medical team will also receive the list.
- Sport and Music. If any parents have any specific concerns/requests regarding sport or music participation during Ramadan, they should seek to contact the relevant teacher in good time. The earlier the communication is made, the more chance there will be of coming to a satisfactory arrangement for all.