

St Mary the Virgin, Harefield Churchyard Regulations

The right of burial in the churchyard shall be reserved for those who reside within the boundaries of St Mary's Parish, who are on the electoral roll or where there is an existing grave in which one person has been previously buried.

Permission for the introduction of memorials to commemorate those who have died must be obtained from the Incumbent.

Dimensions

	Height above Ground		Width		Thickness	
	Imperial	Metric	Imperial	Metric	Imperial	Metric
Maximum	4'0"	1200mm	3'0"	900mm	6"	150mm
Minimum	2'6"	750mm	1'8"	500mm	3"	75mm

A memorial for a child may be smaller than the standard sizes specified.

Base – Foundation

(a) Headstone may be so shaped that it can be fitted into the ground with sufficient depth to ensure stability.

(a) Headstones may be on an integral base that projects no more than 100mm/4 inches beyond the width and thickness of the headstone except where a receptacle for flowers is included, in which case it should be flush with the base and extend upwards to a maximum of 200mm/8 inches in front of the headstone.

Materials

Memorials should be made from matt natural stone or hardwood. Only the following stones are permitted;

Nabresina or Portland	Welsh blue/black slate
Purbeck	Westmorland green slate
Doulling or Brown York	Light grey granite

Stones should have a non-reflective finish

Designs

Curved tops to headstones are permitted but not hearts or books. No attachments can be added to the stone. The base of the stone must be kept clear, for example of kerbs, railing etc.

A cross may be used as the headstone. The area surrounding the grave must be grassed.

Epitaphs

Inscriptions must be incised or in relief. Abbreviations (including dates) will not normally be allowed. Quotations from literary sources may be included. Additions may be added later following a subsequent interment. The grave number should be incised on the reverse, only the masons name may be added.

Flowers

Flowers may be placed in a removable container sunk into the ground. No artificial flowers are allowed except Remembrance Day poppies and traditional Christmas wreaths. These must be removed after a period of 6 weeks. The grave may be planted with bulbs and plants but no plant shall be allowed to grow over 300mm/12 inches and must be kept trimmed to keep within this height.

The surrounds of the plot must be kept to grass.

For any deviation to the above regulations, a faculty (permission document) must be applied for, which may or may not get approval. Please speak to the incumbent or the London Diocese Registrar, The Old Deanery, Deans Court, London, EC4V 5AA

Garden of Remembrance

Permission for the introduction of memorials to commemorate those who have died must be obtained from the Incumbent.

Ashes are not allowed to be scattered and must be buried.

A stone tablet may be laid and must be 10 inches/254mm square and cut from

Light grey Granite, Nabresina
Welsh blue black Westmoreland green slate.

The surface should be rubbed not polished.

The inscription must be incised in black, grey or white. Abbreviations such as dates are not allowed.

No objects such as vases are allowed on the grave or surrounding it. Only sprays of fresh flowers may be laid on the tablet. Poppies and Christmas wreathes will be removed after six weeks. The area surrounding the tablet must be grassed

Plots cannot be reserved.

An existing tablet on the wall may have a suitable addition commemorating a close relative.

A Book of Remembrance is situated in the church in which names may be inscribed.

The Garden of Remembrance will be maintained by the PCC in a clean and tidy manner with the grass mowed regularly and dead flowers removed.