



What is Time for Reflection?

Religious Observance (RO) is defined for schools in Scotland as: *“Community acts which aim to promote the spiritual development of all members of the school community and express and celebrate the shared values of the school community.”* (Religious Observance Review Group Report 2004)

In line with current policy and legislation all Fife Schools are expected to fulfil this statutory requirement through undertaking acts of Religious Observance (RO) as described below. In this guidance, RO is referred to as Time for Reflection (TfR), although other names may be used to describe it.

Time for Reflection in Freuchie Primary School

Freuchie Primary School places high importance on ensuring that Time for Reflection is inclusive of a diverse range of faith and belief traditions and reflects both faith and non-faith perspectives. We are proactive in ensuring high-quality, pupil, staff, and partner-led opportunities and events that enable a shared community understanding and celebration of the diversity within TfR. This enables us to help our children enjoy Article 14 of the UNCRC - *I have the right to have my own thoughts and beliefs and to choose my religion, with help from my parents.* (UNICEF)

We ensure this through our curriculum and assembly programmes which are planned over a 3 year cycle to enable all children to have a range of experiences linked to a variety of religions and beliefs.

We work closely with our cluster and where possible visiting speakers who support us in planning, delivering and reviewing our TfR programme. We welcome the opportunity to work with a range of partners who represent faith and non-faith groups which reflect and are relatable to the diverse beliefs and values of our school community.

TfR links to our school vision and values in the following ways: Our Vision of **‘Being Well, Doing Well, Treating Others Well’**, reflects our commitment to treating others’ thoughts and beliefs with respect. Our values (Kind, Ambition, Respect and Resilience) help to frame our belief system and how we treat others. Staff pupils and parents all contributed to the creation of our vision and values ensuring a well thought out and rounded approach to our overall approach in school.

Opportunities for TfR are provided for our young people in the following ways:

Non-denominational Schools:

- Assemblies focused on our school, our values and how we reflect these values in our interactions with our wider community, will be held every week. A copy of our three-year rolling programme can be supplied by the Headteacher.
- Involvement in pupil voice groups and community projects support the development of our values and are examples of the responsibility we show to supporting local (e.g. Lumsden Larder) and national charities (e.g. Save the Children) within the confines of our ‘Cost of the School Day’ policy.
- Focused year group, small group or whole school opportunities to develop the young person’s four capacities to be: a successful learner, confident individual, responsible citizen and effective contributor. These are reflected particularly through our cross-curricular BGE topics which amongst others link to the religions of the world and give opportunities for all pupils to share their views and influence the direction in which our learning goes.
- Whole school events that celebrate and promote the diverse achievements, cultural heritage, and talents of young people e.g. Award ceremonies or other family engagements.
- Extracurricular groups follow the needs of the school community.

- Links with our local church for services linked to Christian festivals, particularly Christmas as well as working together to celebrate and share success.

What part does worship play in the school TfR programme?

Our school approach to TfR aligns with the recommendations of the Religious Observance Review Group Report 2004:

Non-denominational Schools

“Where ... there is a diversity of beliefs and practices, ... the appropriate context for an organised act of worship is within the informal curriculum as part of the range of activities offered for example by religions, groups, chaplains and other religious leaders.” (Religious Observance Review Group Report 2004). This may include, for example, lunchtime or after-school activities or events.

At Freuchie Primary School we currently do not have a direct link with a minister due to organisational change within the Church of Scotland. We link with members of our church community to support them and the life of our school. As the changes in personnel come to fruition, the school will consider wider opportunities for TfR across the school year as appropriate.

Our link with Freuchie Church is:-

Liz Slattery, Session Clerk – Eden Tay Parish - edentaysessionclerk1@gmail.com – Church of Scotland

Can I withdraw my young person from Time for Reflection/ Religious Observance?

Under the terms of the Education (Scotland) Act 1980, parents/ carers/ families do have the right to withdraw their child from Time for Reflection. Where a request is made, we will work in partnership with families to manage this with sensitivity and understanding.

If you wish to make a request please email: Mrs Kirkhope via freuchieps.enquiries@fife.gov.uk Following receipt of this communication, a member of the school Senior Leadership Team will arrange a meeting with you to explain in more detail our inclusive approach to TfR, discuss any implications for withdrawal and to agree suitable arrangements as an alternative where required. Where a young person wishes to undertake religious practice or worship as part of their school day, we will seek to provide facilities which support this.