Provision of Time for Reflection (Religious Observance)

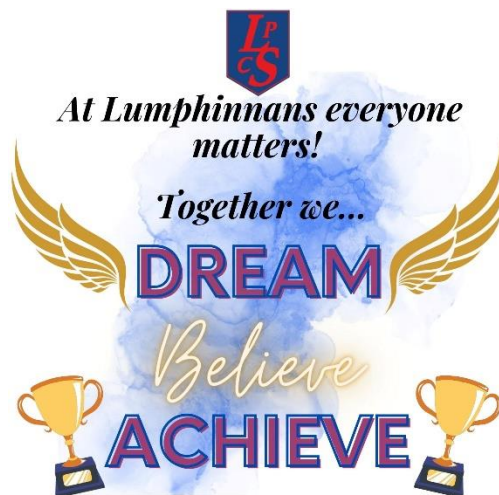**What is Time for Reflection (otherwise known as Religious Observance)?**

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 Lumphinnans Primary School

Lumphinnans Primary School places high importance on ensuring that TfR 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.

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.

Our school values encourage honesty, effort and respect, these form our core ethos which supports TfR in our school. Learning around Children's Rights within the UNCRC, underpins all that we do in promotion and celebration of diversity and inclusion of difference.

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

- Weekly Assemblies, called Together Time, focused on our school, our values and how we reflect these values in our interactions with our wider community. Together Time also include a wide range of celebrations, sharing success and promoting diversity.
- As part of our weekly Together Time sessions we encourage pupils to share their wider achievements, both from within and out with school, and link these to the four capacities to be: a successful learner, confident individual, responsible citizen and effective contributor.
- Involvement in community projects to support for example developing the value of charity. Our pupil council and Everyone Matters committee work closely to select charities to support throughout the year.
- Extracurricular groups and prayer space following the faith needs of the school community.

- Termly end of term services at Beath & Cowdenbeath North Church to celebrate our community and promote our school values.

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:

"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.

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/ Religious Observance. 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 lumphinnansps.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 RO, 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.