

Installation of benches

Benches offer a means of commemorating a particular individual whilst also providing a place to sit in contemplation and reflection. Under the 2015 Faculty Jurisdiction Rules, you can apply to the archdeacon for a List B notice to install a bench.

When making an application you should include:

- Details of the proposed bench
 - o Link to a catalogue page
 - o Detail of the material used ie: is it FSC approved timber
 - o Dimensions
- A photograph of the proposed location showing the surrounding area
- A plan or aerial image of the churchyard showing where the bench will be placed (aerial images may be obtained free of charge from Google maps)
- A specification for the ground fixings
- A layout drawing of any inscription to include the actual wording, the lettering font, dimensions and the material of any plaque NB: the DAC prefer inscriptions to be cut into the bench itself
- The PCC resolution agreeing to the installation of the bench

What to bear in mind when choosing a bench

- We would recommend avoiding tropical hardwoods and instead choosing a bench made of a sustainably sourced hardwood. Look for FSC approved timber.
- We recommend carving inscriptions into the rail rather than fixing a plaque. Benches are a target for thieves and are a more attractive target if the dedication plaque can be removed. Metal plaques can also react with water run-off plus some type of timber, resulting in staining of the timber.
- Is the method of fixing appropriate for the churchyard? Pouring a slab of concrete for the bench to stand on may not be appropriate in a rural churchyard.