



CODE OF GOOD PRACTICE

In Scotland today, people of many different faiths and none live side by side. The opportunity exists therefore to work together to build a society rooted in ethics, values and standards which all respect and which form the basis of a fair, equitable and stable society. This society can only be built on a sure foundation of mutual respect, openness and trust. This means finding ways to live our lives with integrity, and allowing others to do so too. Our different spiritual, moral and ethical traditions offer us many resources for this and teach us the importance of good relationships characterised by honesty, compassion and generosity of spirit.

As a Christian organisation Work Place Chaplaincy Scotland commits to the following Code of Good Practice:

As members of a multi-cultural society, we aim to show respect and courtesy at all times and to all people. This means:

- Respecting other people's freedom within the law to express their beliefs and convictions
- Learning to understand what others actually believe and value, and letting them express this in their own terms
- Respecting the convictions of others about food, dress and social etiquette and not behaving in ways which cause needless offence
- Recognising that all of us at times fall short of the ideals of our own traditions and never comparing our own ideals with other people's practices
- Working to prevent disagreement from leading to conflict
- Always seeking to avoid violence in our relationships

When we talk about matters of faith with one another, we need to do so with sensitivity, honesty and straightforwardness. This means:

- Recognising that listening as well as speaking is necessary for a genuine conversation
- Being honest about our beliefs and religious allegiances
- Not misrepresenting or disparaging other people's beliefs and practices
- Correcting misunderstanding or misrepresentations not only of our own but also of other faiths whenever we come across them
- Being straightforward about our intentions
- Accepting that in formal inter faith meetings there is a particular responsibility to ensure that the religious commitment of all those who are present will be respected.

WPCS is a Christian organisation working in partnership with local worshipping communities of all denominations as well as secular organisations and on occasions, other faith groups. WPCS is NOT a proselytising organisation. Where an individual requests further information on the Christian faith or indeed any other faith, this will be facilitated by the chaplain by directing the individual to the appropriate resources outwith the work place. WPCS chaplains are motivated by a strong personal faith and a desire to serve their fellow men and women, following the example and direction of Christ. If asked, chaplains will be happy to discuss their faith, however this will always be characterised by self-restraint and a concern for the other's freedom and dignity. This means:

- Respecting another person's expressed wish to be left alone
- Avoiding imposing ourselves and our views on individuals or communities who are in vulnerable situations in ways which exploit these
- Being sensitive and courteous
- Avoiding violent action or language, threats, manipulation, improper inducements, or the misuse of any kind of power
- Respecting the right of others to disagree with us

The mark of good chaplaincy is, above all else, an increase in harmony and wellbeing in individuals and organisations

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