

Chaplaincy Podcasts | Reflecting through a chaplain's eyes

Exploring Chaplaincy Charlotte Kelley

Charlotte is chaplain at Wellington School, Somerset, an independent school with a strong Christian foundation. Her role includes holding the religious practice at the school.

The following questions may help you reflect further on the things that Charlotte mentions in her conversation:

1. Charlotte came to school chaplaincy from a teaching background, but chaplains come from a variety of context related or other backgrounds. What has driven your interest in chaplaincy?
2. Charlotte mentions that the main role in her job description is to help the school 'explore Christian faith'. Do you think this is common to all chaplaincies? What has been your experience of this?
3. Charlotte faced two big events shortly after beginning the work at the school: the death of Queen Elizabeth II and the death by suicide of a pupil. Whilst most chaplaincies would not begin quite so dramatically, being at ease with issues of life and death is a quality of all chaplains. How comfortable do you feel about this? What might help you feel more confident?
4. The school in which Charlotte is based is fortunate to have a chapel which both literally and figuratively is the centre of school life. What advantages do you think having a designated space give to a chaplain. What might be some of the challenges and weaknesses of this?
5. Charlotte is the only chaplain at the school. Nevertheless her role requires her to work in partnership with many others – school leadership, staff and pupils. Can you think of some times when the desires of a chaplain might not fit with the needs of the school?

For further exploration

There are many resources, films, toolkits and booklets at www.bathandwells.org.uk/chaplaincy/ and on other sites.

An introduction to chaplaincy in Taunton, can be seen [here](#).

Two recent chaplaincy booklets may be of interest, 'Chaplaincy and Covid' can be downloaded [here](#) and 'Chaplaincy and Hope' can be read [here](#). More information on chaplaincy in education settings can be found here:

<https://centreforchaplaincyineducation.co.uk/about-us>

If you have any questions or would like further information please contact **Revd Mike Haslam** Chaplaincy Adviser, Diocese of Bath and Wells, 07530 677493, Mike.haslam@bathwells.anglican.org, www.bathandwells.org.uk/chaplaincy

Next podcast

The next podcast will be Chaplaincy, crisis and trauma with Ann Fulton, Spiritual Care Coordinator at St Margaret's Hospicecare. There is opportunity to discuss the ideas raised on **Monday 13 November**, from **16.00-17.30** [Register here](#)



The chapel at Wellington School