



COLLECTIVE ACT OF WORSHIP POLICY

1. Rationale

The Law requires schools to provide a daily act of collective worship. Taken over a term, the majority of such acts should be wholly or mainly of a Christian character.

The Collective Act of Worship through assemblies and tutor time occupy an important place in the life of the school. It provides an opportunity for members of the school community to pause during the activity of the school day to gather and reflect upon the beliefs and values that bind the school community and our society together and to contribute to the spiritual, social, moral, cultural and intellectual dimensions of education. Collective Acts of Worship through assemblies or tutor time should be used to give positive messages and engage students.

2. Purposes

Collective Acts of Worship:

- provide an opportunity for reflection on important issues.
- reinforce a sense of group and community identity.
- provide an opportunity for celebrating success and offering support as appropriate.
- provide an opportunity for highlighting and reflecting upon human and school values, particularly those set out in the school value statements.
- offer the opportunity to mark significant points in the year such as festivals and national, local and school events.
- provide an opportunity to promote British values

Collective Acts of Worship enhance the school's delivery of the spiritual, social, moral and cultural dimensions of education in the following ways:

Spiritual

Students:

- reflect upon the value purpose and meaning of life and our experiences.
- experience times of quiet in the midst of the school day.
- experience ideas from religious and other sources which suggest that there is more to life than the immediate and material.

Social

Students:

- gather with others for a common purpose.
- share times of joy and sadness with others in the community.

- learn how to behave appropriately within a specific social setting.
- reflect on the social and emotional aspects of learning

Moral

Students:

- reflect on issues of right and wrong.
- hear about people and incidents in which good and moral behaviour is exemplified.
- learn about religious and other teachings concerned with right and wrong.

Cultural

Students:

- develop a greater understanding of a range of cultures from the UK and abroad thus contributing to community cohesion.
- reflect upon the ideas, values and opinions of other people.
- appreciate the range of talents and gifts found within the school community and wider society.

Intellectual

Students:

- think and expand their knowledge base and understanding.
- have ideas, beliefs, preconceptions and prejudices confirmed or challenged.
- reflect upon the nature of learning and the value of education.

3. Guidelines

- Students experience collective worship in form groups during the morning form period and once a fortnight in College assembly.
- Tutor and College activities (for example, charity work) are used to support the purposes of collective act of worship in a practical, active and engaging way.

4. Withdrawal

Parents have the right to withdraw their children from collective worship. If they wish to do so, they must inform the College Leaders.

Teachers cannot be required to lead or attend worship. If they are unwilling to participate in the school's programme they must inform the Headteacher.

5. Monitoring, Evaluation and Review

The school will review this policy annually and assess its implementation and effectiveness. The policy will be promoted and implemented throughout the school.

Governors will review the policy every three years.

Date of approval: Autumn Term 2016

Next review: Autumn Term 2019