



# Collective Worship Policy

## **Collective Worship Policy**

The act of worship (assembly) forms an integral part of the College curriculum and as such supports and reinforces the overall aims of the College. We acknowledge that there are at least two distinct interpretations of the word 'worship' and reflect these in the theory and practice of our policy.

Worship is: a) Adoration offered by believers to the supreme being.  
b) The consideration of concerns, concepts, principles, conduct worthy of celebration as examples of the highest achievements of the human spirit.

The College worship policy also operates within the spirit of the policy on equal opportunities, our commitment to inclusivity and citizenship. This celebrates diversity as part of the community ethos of the College and appreciates how it is enriched through the contributions of different ethnic groups, sexes, ages, classes, spiritualities and capabilities. Assemblies make a significant contribution to the delivery of Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural education at Stoke Damerel.

The following aims are rooted within this framework, which encourages celebration, participation and reflection.

#### **The aims of our assemblies**

- To reflect, express, affirm or challenge commonly accepted personal and social values.
- To provide opportunities to evoke those senses and feelings from which it might be said that worship most naturally arises: a sense of beauty, wonder, pride, pity, peace, thankfulness, shared loss, stillness in the midst of a busy existence.
- To provide opportunities for active participation, celebration and reflection across a wide range of issues which exploit the richness of the College curriculum and the educational context of the assembly.
- To allow positive reflection on success and failure in an open, honest and sensitive climate.
- To explore SMSC topics and issues, such as multicultural awareness and emotional health
- To involve and recognise the full College community.
- To employ a variety of methods of delivery and media.
- To recognise the relationship between the thoughts that are offered for reflection and the different ways in which they are received, according to the level of spiritual development and disposition of those taking part.

#### **Organisation and delivery**

Assemblies are organised around a theme that maybe linked to national, local or school related calendar of events. A centrally located noticeboard visually illustrates a theme or thought for the week.

Very occasionally there will be a Whole College Assembly, given by the Principal. Those delivering assemblies include all members of the Senior Management Team, Learning Managers and their deputies, Curriculum Managers and a significant number of staff volunteers and tutors, as well as visiting speakers and groups. A calendar for assemblies is published half-termly.

#### **Staff responsibilities**

College assembly rota: Simon Kelly

Year Assemblies: Learning Managers

Resources: Year team budgets, Assembly budget

Display board: Display co-ordinator

**Policy Approved March 2018**