

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

Version: 7.0
Approved: 17 March 2021
Next review: March 2024
Co-ordinator: Tracey Savage

Rationale

The Act of Worship in the school is subject to the detailed regulations of the Education Act 1988.

The overall aim is to lay foundations of experience in children which they may develop later into the capacity for mature worship.

Purpose

The purposes of the policy include:

- celebrating the shared values of the school community;
- to share experience as a large group;
- to develop the practice of reflection;
- to focus on the special moment;
- to introduce students appropriately to traditional forms of worship;
- to share worship and periods of reflection with members of the local community.

Implementation

Collective worship at the school is 'broadly Christian' and reflects the 'broad traditions of Christian belief'. A programme of assemblies is produced for each academic year. The programme includes fortnightly themes which provide a focus for the daily acts of collective reflection/worship. These are led by students, staff and members of the local community.

Year Group assemblies, which include the act of collective reflection/worship, are held throughout the week. In addition, there are Tutor Groups meetings on most days, which at times include an act of collective reflection.

These collective acts of reflection/worship are further supported by a cross-curricular approach to the delivery of SMSC.

The Leadership Team oversees the implementation of the School Assembly Policy. The Assembly programme is discussed and evaluated at staff meetings and by the Students' Council.

Exercise of right of withdrawal

The parental right to withdraw a child from attending collective worship is freely exercisable and the school will give effect to any such request. Parents are not obliged to state their reasons for seeking withdrawal.

A parent wishing to exercise this right should contact their child's Head of Year.

Links to other policies/documents

- Governors' Delegation of Functions (Functions 2 and 34)
- SMSC and British Values Policy