



COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

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Introduction:

In line with the 1988 Education Reform Act, which states that collective worship should be 'wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character', and in recognition of the fact that the majority of our pupils are practising members of other faiths, we base our assemblies on those aspects of Christian teaching that are shared with other faiths. Assemblies are conducted in a manner that is sensitive to the individual faiths and beliefs of all members of the school. The major religious festivals from a range of faiths are celebrated, e.g. Christmas, Easter, Diwali, Eid-ul-Adha, Yom Kippur etc...

Definition of Collective Worship:

Collective Worship is a time when the whole school, or groups within the school meet together in order to consider and reflect on common concerns, issues and interests. It offers all pupils an opportunity to worship through engaging in relevant, meaningful experiences and provides opportunities for the pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.

Aims of Collective Worship:

For the School: Collective Worship contributes significantly to the ethos of the school and it is our aim that it is a time when the school community can:

- share common aims and values
- celebrate achievement and special times
- explore together the world in which we live
- develop a community spirit

For the Pupils: We intend that Collective Worship contributes to the development of the pupil as a 'whole' person by providing opportunities to:

- reflect on that which is considered worthy
- consider spiritual and moral issues
- explore their own beliefs and that of others
- reflect on the direction of their lives
- reinforce positive attitudes
- participate and respond
- reflect on what it means to be human
- consider the wonders and worries of the world

To ensure Collective Worship provides opportunities for spiritual, moral, social and cultural development it will address a wide variety of themes and topics, use diverse stimuli and resources and provide pupils with the opportunity to 'respond' on their own level.

Our assemblies will be conducted in a sensitive and inclusive manner so as to ensure that all children feel comfortable to attend, however, if there is a reason why parents would want to withdraw their child from any particular assembly, parents may do so on religious grounds by writing to the Headteacher.