



CORE
EDUCATION
TRUST

Collective Worship Policy

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| Approved by: | Board of Trustees | Date: 19/10/23 |
| Last reviewed: | 01 September 2023 | |
| Next review due by: | 01 September 2024=6 | |
| Monitoring & Review | 3 years | |

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1. Aims and Purpose

The aims and purpose of collective worship are:

- to provide an opportunity for the students to reflect.
- to enable students to consider spiritual and moral issues.
- to enable students to explore their own beliefs.
- to encourage participation.
- to develop in students a sense of community spirit.
- to promote a common ethos with shared values and to reinforce positive attitudes.
- to teach students how people of faith worship and celebrate.

2. Collective Worship

- 2.1 Collective worship involves all members of each school (and/or as a class/year group when logistically necessary) coming together and participating in an assembly. We expect everyone to take an active part.
- 2.2 The Trust's policy considers the 1988 Education Reform Act and subsequent guidance. We conduct our assemblies in a manner that is sensitive to the individual faith and beliefs of all members of the school, while acknowledging the context of Britain whose state religion is Christian.
- 2.3 The provision for collective worship within the school is mindful of the diversity and faith of the school population, while ensuring students grow in understanding of British society.

3. Organisation of Collective Worship

- 3.1 Daily all students are provided a time to reflect either within assembly or within class that is linked to themes. In exceptional circumstances, alternative methods of delivery may be employed. Assemblies may be delivered virtually to pupils in form rooms, or at home, via an on-line App, such as Microsoft Teams.
- 3.2 The Trust's schools conduct assemblies in a dignified and respectful way. They tell students that assembly is a time to celebrate, share and reflect. The schools regard it as a special time and expect students to behave in an appropriate way, be quiet and thoughtful and to listen carefully and participate fully in reflection.

- 3.3 The Headteacher or other members of staff normally conduct assemblies. Guest speakers are invited, such as representatives from, faith groups, charity, and community groups such as the local police. All visitors are made fully aware of the No Platform Policy and appropriate due diligence is carried out in line with the policy. This policy outlines that no individual or group can promote their own agenda or agenda's contrary to CORE Values as a visitor or site user.
- 3.4 The themes of assemblies are aligned to the CORE and school values, UNICEF, British Values, current affairs, RE lessons and celebration of all faiths.
- 3.5 Assemblies reflect the achievements and learning of the students. Students are encouraged to participate in assemblies by showing their work to other students and raising issues that they have discussed in their classes. Assemblies offer an opportunity to acknowledge and reward students for their achievements both in and out of the school. They play an important part in promoting the ethos of the school, which is that all students are valued, and all achievements are recognised.
- 3.6 In each school parents/careers and governors are invited to attend special assemblies, such as end of term celebrations.

4. Right of Withdrawal

- 4.1 We expect all students to attend assembly and see its inclusion as central to the school's ethos. However, in exceptional circumstances parents can request permission for their child to be excused from attending the collective worship element. The school will make alternative arrangements for the child during the period concerned. Parents/carers do not have to explain or give reasons for this. This complies with the 1944 Education Act and was restated in the 1988 Education Reform Act.
- 4.2 The Headteacher of each school keeps a record of all students who withdraw from collective worship. This information is held within the school SIMS system record for the individual student.

5. Monitoring and Review

- 5.1 It is the role of the Local Governing Body to monitor the policy and practice of collective worship. The nominated visiting governor concerned liaises with the

Headteacher before reporting to the governors on religious education and collective worship.