



the *King's* school

specialising in maths and computing

Collective Worship Policy

Governor Committee: Curriculum & Pupil Standards

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

1 Policy Statement

At The King's School we recognise that Collective Worship is an important opportunity to provide for the Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural development of our students.

2 Purpose/Aims

It is our aim at The King's School that worship should:-

- Contribute to the spiritual, social, moral and cultural development of each child;
- Support the social and emotional aspects of students learning (SEAL);
- Promote community cohesion;
- Give expression to, and re-affirm and practise the values of the school community;
- Allow reflection and response to the fundamental questions of life and those things that are of eternal concern and value to human beings;
- Celebrate and give thanks for the achievements within the school, local and international community and occasions of significance, including festivals;
- Foster and enable a concern for the needs of others, a recognition of the vulnerability of self and of others;
- Provide members of the school community with the opportunity to experience stillness and quiet;
- Provide members of the school community with the opportunity to worship God.

3 Scope

Legal Status of Collective Worship

The 1988 Education Reform Act lays down the legal obligations of schools in the United Kingdom, the main points of which are:

- All students shall take part in Collective Worship each day;
- This can take place at any time of the day;
- It should be wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character, reflecting the broad traditions of Christian belief, without being denominational;
- It should take into account family background and the ages and aptitudes of the students.

Rights of Withdrawal

At The King's School we seek to be an inclusive community however we respect the right of parents to withdraw their children for Collective Worship. This school expects that withdrawal will only be made following parental discussion with the Headteacher followed by written confirmation of withdrawal.

4 Responsibility

- The Subject Team Leader for Religious Education will have overall responsibility for Religious Education and will be responsible to a member of the Senior Leadership Team;
- Year Achievement Leaders and Form Tutors will support the purpose/aims of the policy through assemblies and the pastoral programme including Personal Development Curriculum (PDC);
- Subject Team Leaders will be responsible for Cross-Curricular provision where applicable through Schemes of Work.

5 Publicity

A statement regarding the Collective Worship Policy will be made on all publicity materials, all new staff and students recruited to the School will be made aware of it. The policy will be posted on the Shared (G) drive of the school web site.

GUIDANCE

Organisation

- Assemblies are held in the Hall, on a daily basis of one per week for each of the five Year Groups or joint assemblies, providing an opportunity for students to meet together for collective worship.
- Assemblies are normally led by either the Year Achievement Leader or members of the Senior Leadership Team but there is also opportunity for:-
 - Participation in the assembly by groups of students;
 - Visits by local religious leaders, particularly when religious festivals are being celebrated;
 - Visits by representatives from local and national charities or organisations.
- A planned theme for the week will normally be the focus of the assembly and will be centred around a topic such as a national issue, a particular time of year, a school event or similar.
- On those days of the week when year groups do not meet in the hall, students within Year Groups will participate in the 'Thought for the Week' programme within the Tutor base.

Planning, Recording and Evaluation

Collective Worship will be treated like any other part of the curriculum when it comes to matters of planning, delivery, resourcing and evaluation.

Each week there is a theme for Collective Worship. This is published in the weekly Bulletin sheet. It is expected that those leading worship that week will relate their worship to this theme and that Tutors will re-enforce this in reflections during Tutor time. The themes chosen are broad enough to allow all those leading worship to approach the theme from their own perspective. This pattern is flexible and on occasions it is recognised that worship leaders may feel that they need to respond to local or national events.

The school seeks to involve students in the evaluation of Collective Worship. Members of the School Leadership Group regularly seek the views of their classmates and report these to the Senior Leadership Team.

Equal Opportunities

All students have an equal opportunity to take part in Collective Worship and the school discourages the withdrawal of students for academic work. A variety of multi-cultural material, as well as Personal, Social, Health Education (PSHE) resources are available in school.

Tolerance of other religions, and an understanding that our country has many faiths, is to be expressed through the themes chosen for Collective Worship. The school promotes equal opportunities by ensuring that all people are respected and discrimination is not tolerated.