

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

1. Rationale

Collective worship in the Academy is to do with the fundamental recognition of worth and worthiness. It is concerned with ultimate questions and values. It is about identifying, affirming and celebrating those ideals and values held to be of importance in the worshipping community. Through reflection and response, it should be an important stimulus towards spiritual development. For many, but not necessarily all, spirituality finds its most comfortable expression within the context of belief in God.

2. Aims

Collective worship will be of a predominantly Christian nature, reflecting the Academy's Anglican/Methodist foundation and the traditions of the Churches. Children's thoughts and understanding about social, cultural, moral and spiritual issues will be stimulated, encouraged and extended through a broad range of themes and variety of approaches.

3. Objectives

- 3.1 To take account of the religious provisions of the Trust Deed and other relevant legislation, and of worship guidelines provided by the Anglican and Methodist churches.
- 3.2 To maintain a four year cycle of themes which can be developed in a predominantly Christian nature and provide opportunity for reflection.
- 3.3 To recognise the contribution made by other religions and philosophical thinking to human experience.
- 3.4 To organise a timetable so that daily collective worship can be conducted in combinations of Year Groups and Tutor Groups.
- 3.5 To provide guidance on acts of worship in tutor groups.
- 3.6 To encourage a variety of speakers from within the Academy and the local community to lead daily acts of worship.
- 3.7 To arrange a special act of collective worship at Advent , Christmas, Lent, Easter and Harvest.

4. Procedures and Practice

- 4.1 The Headteacher will be responsible for organising and managing collective worship over the four year cycle.
- 4.2 A termly programme of themes and speakers will be published.
- 4.3 Pastoral team leaders will supervise the entry to and exit from acts of collective worship in the Main Hall and Block Hall.
- 4.4 Tutors will implement the guidance on acts of worship in tutor groups.
- 4.5 Daily acts of collective worship will be identified specifically on the timetable.
- 4.6 Requests to withdraw from collective worship should be made in writing to the Headteacher.
- 4.7 In liaison with the Ministers of the foundation churches, the Faculty Head of Religious Education, Philosophy and Citizenship will oversee the organisation of special services when they are arranged.

APPENDIX A

Spiritual – the big questions

Collective worship

- seeks to reflect its Anglican/Methodist Foundation and instil a Christian ethos throughout the Academy;
- can help pupils ponder on the many ultimate questions life presents, and know that others of all ages ponder these too;
- may provide an opportunity for pupils (and staff) to come close to God and reflect on the most important directions and values for their lives.

Space and Reflection

Collective worship

- gives both body and mind time to breathe, offering space and stillness, before or during a hectic and pressured day to be oneself, to reflect or just to sit and rest;
- may provide a time which pupils may make their own;
- is one of the few occasions in a week of schooling that offers, or should offer, space for the spirit.

Personal/Community concerns and support

Collective worship

- enables individuals and groups of staff and pupils to share their interests, concerns and reflections;
- can enable the joys and sorrows of those present to be reflected upon and shared in a way which is otherwise not possible in schools.

Understanding and Sharing

Collective worship

- can be a time to present genuinely alternative views of life and lifestyles for pupils to consider;
- can offer insights into religious and other beliefs and commitments in an open way;
- can be a time of sharing those things that unite, whilst acknowledging or celebrating the diversity of beliefs and values within and beyond the Academy.

Academy Ethos

Collective worship

- enables the overall personality and ethos of the Academy to come across to everyone;
- is an opportunity to share and reinforce the values the Academy seeks to live by;
- helps foster a spirit of community in an Academy year group or class.
- Provides staff to pray for the community, the wider community and its members.

APPENDIX B

ACTS OF WORSHIP IN TUTOR GROUPS

Guidelines for Tutors

To ensure a consistent approach throughout the Academy, it is suggested that tutor group acts of worship adopt the following format.

- One act of worship should follow up the weekly theme. An outline of some suggestions of points for discussion and reflection will be produced each week by the Faculty Head.
- The other act of worship should be used either to focus upon current affairs or as an opportunity for spiritual/personal development through activities such as circle time or stilling.
- If written reflections are to form part of this time these could be recorded in Citizenship books
- There will also be occasions when tutoring issues arise which need to be dealt with. It is suggested therefore that all pupils have a reading book available at these sessions to enable the tutor to deal with these matters.
- It is important that these sessions are used constructively and that there is a quiet orderly atmosphere.
- An act of worship should include some aspect of worship which could be a prayer or a time of quiet reflection. You may like to use a focus for this such as the lighting of a candle, showing an artefact or picture or playing music.

A list of themes for acts of worship this term is attached.

There are resources in the staff room for Collective Worship. A selection of suitable prayers to support the themes will also be available displayed in the staff room.

ACTS OF WORSHIP THEMES

2017/ 18	2018 / 19	2019 / 20	2021 / 22
Acceptance	Advent	Achievements	Action
Advent	Acceptance	Anger / Hate	Ambitions
Advice	Awe	Adventure	Authority
Body Language	Caring	Awe / Wonder	Autumn
Bullying /peer pressure	Celebration	Beauty	Beliefs
Charity	Christmas	Beginnings	Bravery
Choices	Communication	Bible	Christmas
Christmas	Community	Character	Creativity
Compromise	Conservation	Christmas	Conscience
Commitment	Co-operation	Confidence	Darkness
Decision making	Courage	Consideration	Disappointment
Easter / Holy Week	Creation	Curiosity	Duty
Failure	Easter / Holy Week	Difficulties	Easter / Holy Week
Faith	Endurance	Discovery	Family
Fun	Empathy	Dreams	Giving
Gossip / Rumours	Envy	Earth	Generosity
Hope	Failing well	Easter / Holy Week	Honesty
Humility	Family	Enjoyment	Innocence
Intelligence	Forgiving	Enthusiasm / Purpose	Journeys
Limits	Healing	Environment	Joy
Manners	Helping	Examples	Leisure
Motivation	Hope	Friendship	Love
Pride	Individuality	Forgiveness	Mistakes
Punctuality	Kindness	Fears	Motives
Reciprocity	Koinonia	Faith	Mystery
Recognition	Light	Harvest	Music
Reconciliation	Love	Health	Need
Reflection	Loyalty	Helping	Peace
Reliability	Partnerships	Honour	Pleasure
Reputations	Peace	Imagination	Praise
Resourcefulness	Positivity	Individuality	Prejudice
Resilience	Reciprocity	Influence	Pride
Responsibility	Recognition	Justice	Priorities
Risk taking	Reflection	Knowledge	Recreation
Self belief	Renewal	Leadership	Rest
Serving others	Reciprocity	Lent	Relationships
Success	Recognition	Light	Respect
Talents	Resourcefulness	Listening	Right and Wrong
Temptation	Resilience	Living world	Remembrance
Thanksgiving	Risk taking	Loyalty	Safety

Responsible Committee:
Date Last Reviewed:
Date for next review:

Teaching and Learning
October 2018
October 2019

