



# COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

<b>Last Review Date</b>	November 2015	<b>Next Review Date</b>	November 2016
<b>Leader of Policy Review</b>	Mrs. J. Cooper, Mr. C. Ellis		
<b>Associated Policies</b>	Religious Education		

The aim of the Collective Worship policy is to provide the opportunity for students to:

- experience stillness and reflection
- worship, and learn how to worship
- consider values that are of a broadly Christian nature and on their own beliefs
- develop a community spirit, a common ethos with shared values, and to reinforce positive attitudes
- consider spiritual and moral issues
- develop an awareness of the spiritual dimension to each person
- encourage participation and response to the worship offered
- promote racial harmony and respect for all, combating prejudice and discrimination
- explore aspects of life which have special meaning and contribute to a sense of awe, wonder and creativity

The school provides a daily act of Collective Worship that is wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character, as specified in the 1988 Education Reform Act. However, we conduct our worship in a manner that is sensitive to the individual faith and beliefs of all members of the school, and also reflects other religious traditions that are represented in school or the wider community.

Our Collective Worship activities are designed to:

- be appropriate to the age, development and background of the students present
- be varied in content
- challenge students and enriches their experience
- take place in an appropriate setting
- provide an opportunity for students to participate in planning, presenting and/or responding as appropriate

Acts of collective worship take place through:

- House or Sixth Form assemblies
- Sectional House or Sixth Form assemblies
- Activities based on the daily powerpoint, containing relevant stimulus material, that is used by all Group Tutors in registration time
- Activities based on 'Themes for the Year' resources that are reviewed and updated annually
- Other activities that take place in registration time

Collective Worship activities, whether taking place in assembly or registration time, will be acceptable to the whole community of staff and students. Themes are taken from the traditions of the Christian faith and often reflect festivals and events of the Christian calendar. They can also reflect the achievements and learning of students, and provide an opportunity to acknowledge success, promote positive attitudes and values, and reward students.

External sources of input into Collective Worship are actively encouraged. Currently these include extensive input from a lead field worker for local churches (Wendy Swann), local ministers, and the Gideons who deliver an annual assembly to Year 7.

### **Withdrawal from Religious Education and Collective Worship**

In accordance with the law, parents may request the withdrawal of their children from Religious Education and Collective Worship. On receipt of such a request the Headteacher will give the parents the opportunity to discuss the alternative arrangements. These arrangements involve the student undertaking self-supported study in the library under the supervision of the library staff.