



THE PARK COMMUNITY SCHOOL

Collective Worship Policy

Policy Update

Policy Lead Person: Assistant Headteacher - Pastoral, Behaviour & Attendance

Approved By: Local Governing Board / 6th June 2019

Next Review Date Due: June 2021

- Staff *must* sign
- Staff *should* sign
- Governors *should* sign
- Publicly Available

Collective Worship Policy

Introduction

At The Park Community School, we believe that Collective Worship plays a very important role in the life of our school. It is an opportunity to celebrate all aspects of school life to support our curriculum and to provide an opportunity for stillness and reflection in what is often a very busy, active day for our students.

Aims

The central aims of Collective Worship at The Park are to:

- celebrate that which is of worth;
- provide our students with regular opportunities for stillness and reflection;
- promote students' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development;
- celebrate the values and worth of the school community and all who belong in it, including the sharing of the gifts and talents of our students;
- help students develop an understanding both of the nature and language of worship;
- help students develop respect and sensitivity to the beliefs and values of others;
- support the broader curriculum through the use of art, music, dance, story, drama and other visual and oral means of communication.

The Legal Position

The 1988 Education Reform Act states that collective worship must be on a daily basis for all registered pupils. Furthermore, acts of worship "must be wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character, i.e. reflect the broad traditions of Christian belief." At The Park, we have developed a range of themes and topics through which collective worship takes place. Key themes include the Park Community School's eight core values of: **Community, Honesty, Respect, Aspiration, Resilience, Trust, Responsibility, Acceptance.**

We believe these values are universal in their application. We recognise that in our school we have students from a variety of faith backgrounds and that many students have no religious background at all. Great care is taken in our collective worship to ensure that all students feel valued and special and that their integrity as human beings is consistently upheld. Collective Worship at The Park is an inclusive activity. Parents do have, of course, the right of withdrawal from Collective Worship.

Context of Collective Worship

Collective Worship at The Park Community School takes place in a range of settings (the school has no individual building large enough to accommodate the whole school), in order to provide different learning experiences for students. Acts of Worship take place in the broader framework of school assemblies and are planned thematically. The usual pattern is outlined below:

Monday - Tutor groups:	Themed activities in active tutor time
Tuesday - House assemblies or tutor:	Themed activities/core values
Wednesday- House assemblies or tutor:	Themed activities/core values
Thursday - Year group assemblies or tutor:	Core values
Friday - Year group assemblies or tutor:	Core values

This pattern enables our students to learn in different settings and to make an active contribution to our acts of worship. The school frequently invites visitors to play an active role in our acts of worship and we are currently developing a resource bank (based on our themes), which includes stories, poems, music and other support materials to enable our pupils to learn more effectively. We do keep a record of our acts of Worship.

Conclusion

Collective Worship plays a very important role in our school as we seek to develop our students in the skills of reflection and empathy, to encourage and celebrate their talents and to promote their spiritual and moral development