

SCHOOL OPERATING POLICY



COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

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SCHOOL POLICIES

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

2.0 Purpose

2.1 The act of collective worship is one of several vehicles through which spiritual and moral development is promoted at Kelvin Hall School. It is important to see it in this wider context, as each element supports and complements the others. (See **Spiritual and Moral Development Policy Statement**).

2.1.2 We recognise the importance of providing regular opportunities for reflection on spiritual and moral issues. Many of our students have little opportunity outside school to reflect quietly on important values and ideals.

2.1.3 The spiritual dimension is independent of any specific formal religion and, although for some it is embodied in their religious belief, it may be just as significant to those of no particular religious persuasion.

2.2 Scope

Policy applies to all students at the school.

2.3 Responsibility

The policy is the responsibility of the Head & Governors.

3.0 Definition of Worship:

3.1 A working party, set up in 1994 to explore the issues, agreed the following broad definition of worship, which was suggested in the "Guidelines for Collective Worship" produced by the Humberside SACRE:

"Worship is a special reverence and high regard which people give to those values, ideals and achievements, to that effort, struggle and suffering which they take to be of ultimate worth and lasting significance"

3.2.1 Elements of Collective Worship:

Our aim is to incorporate the elements below into our collective worship across each term. The majority of time these will be set in a Christian context, but other religious beliefs may be represented when appropriate. For example:

- exploration of moral issues
- consideration of own beliefs
- opportunity to worship God
- prayer/reflection
- promotion of community spirit, common ethos, shared values
- Celebration of Achievement

3.2.2 These elements of collective worship are addressed through year assemblies and morning tutor periods.

3.2.3 **Year Assemblies:**

- given that it is impossible to gather the whole school together, assemblies are held in year groups
- each year group has one assembly per week in the hall, when it is available
- the assembly takes the form of a collective act of worship of a broadly Christian character, as defined in the 1988 Education Reform Act
- the assembly is led by a member of the Senior Leadership Team, Pastoral Leader or any other person willing to be involved. Outside speakers may be invited to take part
- the theme for the week is introduced in the assembly, where appropriate

3.2.4 **Tutor Periods:**

When there is no Year assembly the collective group is the tutor group, led as far as possible by the tutor. The attention of the whole group is focused on an issue or aspect of the students' moral and spiritual development. Appropriate attitudes, values and expectations are promoted.

Within the tutor period students address some of the key elements outlined above, particularly the exploration of moral issues, the promotion of community spirit, common ethos and shared values, and the celebration of achievement. In addition, there is opportunity for quiet reflection on aspects of the week's theme stimulated by short quotations or thoughts.

4.0 **Exemptions:**

Should any parent wish their child to be exempted from collective worship on specific grounds, arrangements can be made through the Headteacher.

5.0 **Evaluation & Review**

This policy will be reviewed and evaluated annually.