



CREATING A CLIMATE FOR GREAT
LEARNING, SUCCESS AND OPPORTUNITY

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

Approved at a Full Governing Body Meeting on: 27th
September 2022

Date of Next Review: September 2024

Responsible Officer: Teaching and Learning and SLT
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What is Collective Worship?

Collective worship can be defined as a time when the whole school or groups within the school, meet together to learn about and reflect on issues, concerns or common interests. The opportunity to do this supports a student's prospect to develop their spiritual, moral, social and cultural (SMSC) values. This time also gives the chance to worship through careful reflection, whilst also examining many of the British Values (BV) of democracy, rule of law, mutual respect, individual liberty and tolerance of others. This is all completed through carefully planned weekly themes.

How does Collective Worship contribute to the curriculum?

Collective worship primarily takes place outside of curriculum time through assemblies and opportunities for groups to meet outside of lessons. However, it also features when students are asked to reflect on the work completed in their lessons and also when students are also asked to debate and consider others' perspectives on various issues. Both in the classroom and as part of the wider school offer, Benton Park uses diverse materials to encourage students to respond in an appropriate manner, but in their own way, in order to engage with this reflective time.

Aims of Collective Worship

For the School:

Collective worship contributes significantly to the ethos of Benton Park and it is our aim that it is a time when the school community can share the common values of **Resilience, Collaboration, Inspiration, Compassion** and **Endeavour** through a variety of methods, such as:

- To reflect on an individual or group's **resilience**;
- To **collaborate** and debate various current issues;
- To be **inspired** by others' achievements;
- To be **compassionate** towards those in our community and beyond;
- To acknowledge and celebrate acts of **endeavour**.

For the Students:

We also intend that collective worship contributes to the development of the student as a 'whole' person, by providing opportunities to:

- Consider spiritual and moral issues;
- Explore their own beliefs;
- Develop their own spirituality;
- Reinforce positive attitudes;
- Participate and respond in an appropriate manner;
- Reflect on what it means to be part of humanity;

- Examine the importance of British values in everyday life and ways in which school life promotes these.

The Management of Collective Worship

The Headteacher, Senior and Extended Leadership Teams alongside Pastoral staff are responsible for the planning, delivery and monitoring of the collective worship programme. They will also conduct regular reviews of its effectiveness and its impact on student development and experience.

The Organisation of Collective Worship

Each planned collective worship for a Year Group will last 15 minutes for all students per week, but there may be times, when appropriate, where this is extended, depending on the subject content. Collective worship will take place, for the most part, in the Main Hall and an overview of assemblies is shared at the start of each academic year. Each assembly will have a lead member of staff and this may also include external visitors to enhance the students' experience and broaden their knowledge. Visitors who lead collective worship sessions will be required to meet our school safeguarding procedures.

Planning Acts of Collective Worship

The content of all acts of collective worship will be considered carefully, to ensure relevance and suitability for the age, the aptitude and the background of all students. Planned themes will focus on educating all students about our values, focus weeks and events, but will be flexible enough to allow the inclusion of relevant current and topical issues.

For example, during Anti-Bullying Week or Remembrance Week, there will be a focus on these issues, encompassing a clear connection to the Benton Park values.

The Act of Collective Worship

Staff delivering collective worship will choose an appropriate delivery style, as well as resources that are appropriate to the age and background of the students taking part. A variety of interactive methods will be used to stimulate engagement from the students. There will also be time given for response through reflection.

A variety of teaching and learning styles, as well as interactive methods, are appropriate in acts of collective worship. It may also be appropriate for staff to give announcements during this time. This time will be indicated as separate from the reflection time, if not connected that week's theme. The principle aim of collective worship, however, will remain focused on enabling students to reflect on issues, concerns or common interests.