

THE SIR BERNARD LOVELL SCHOOL

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

Rationale

We regard the gathering of students in Year Groups and across Year Groups as an important part of the life of the school. Assemblies provide opportunities for students and staff to feel part of the wider school community and to reflect collectively upon the ideas, purposes and values which guide our actions within school and as part of the wider communities to which we belong. Assemblies play an important role in creating a positive ethos by informing students about whole-school developments and through celebrating the successes of individuals and groups.

Assemblies, along with our Religious Studies programme, are also important in informing students about religious ideas and patterns of worship, and in enabling them to reflect upon their own beliefs. Whilst the emphasis is frequently upon aspects of the Christian faith and culture, we believe that it is important to further our students' understanding of, and respect for, other world religions; we emphasise areas of common belief as well as celebrating the richness and diversity of other faiths.

Assemblies are conducted in an atmosphere and within a framework conducive to religious thought and feeling; at times, including during assemblies, students are expected to observe a period of silent reflection.

Guidelines

- Assemblies form part of a wider plan for personal and social development constructed by each Year team. Themes covered will be guided by other work going on across the curriculum and within Personal, Social Health Education and Personal Development Time sessions. Year Team Plans indicate how these themes fit with religious festivals and other calendared events such as those connected with national charities.
- Each Year Group has two assemblies per week, one organised by the Year Team and the other run in rotation by members of the Learning Management Forum. Additional cross-Year assemblies are organised occasionally, and we host outside speakers.
- Students are encouraged to participate in the organisation and delivery of assemblies.
- Parents can exercise their right to withdraw their children from assemblies, and these students are accommodated in a supervised area.

Adopted: Date:
Head

Adopted: Date:
Chair of Governors

Reviewed: Date:
Head

Reviewed: Date:
Chair of Governors

This policy will be reviewed bi-annually.