

KENMORE PARK JUNIOR SCHOOL

Collective Worship Policy



INTRODUCTION

The School complies with the requirements set out in the 1988 Education Reform Act regarding Collective Worship.

This Collective Worship Policy complements the school aims and philosophy. We comply with Harrow LA guidelines for R.E. and related matters.

The school believes it should serve the needs of the many faiths represented in the school within current guidelines. The school aims to represent each faiths' views fairly with an underlying principle that each faith has something to teach all of us.

The statement clearly describes the rights of parents from different religious and cultural groups, e.g.

- if a predominance is placed upon Christianity during collective worship or R.E. lessons and if that is unacceptable to those children who follow a different faith, parents may request that their children be withdrawn from such collective worship or R.E. lessons;

Assemblies and other acts of collective worship contribute significantly to the delivery of some aspects of the National Curriculum - particularly 'Citizenship', 'Statement on Shared Values', 'Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural development' and certain aspects of the Personal, Social, Citizenship and Health Education course (P.S.H.C.E.). These are all realms which pupils have an entitlement to experience throughout their education.

An Act of Collective Worship will take place every day. The time at which this takes place and the form of the Collective Worship (whole school, team or class groupings) may vary from day to day. We also have a 'theme for the week' which is introduced by the class teachers and reinforced during assemblies.

There are three fundamental principles underlying the provision of our acts of Collective Worship. These principles are broadly outlined below:

- 1) Inclusive in nature;
- 2) Broadly educational in content;
- 3) Specifically Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural in content.

INCLUSIVE - this means that we want our assemblies to:

- recognise and celebrate the diversity of cultures, life styles and religions which exist in our multicultural society. However the majority of the Acts of Collective Worship will be wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character;
- have an atmosphere in which everyone feels valued and safe;
- be suitable for every child to attend unless withdrawn by his/her parents/guardians;
- focus on issues and experiences which are relevant to the children;



- include active participation by pupils, parents and members of the local community – either in preparation or in performance.

EDUCATIONAL - this means that we want our assemblies to:

- reflect the aims of the School, and foster a sense of shared values;
- be valuable learning experiences and, as such, to be included in schemes of work and curriculum planning;
- to enhance, complement and extend the curricular work;
- to provide an opportunity to celebrate the academic, social, personal or sporting achievements of the children;
- to provide an opportunity to learn how to behave in a large social gathering.

SPIRITUAL MORAL, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL - this means that we want our assemblies to:

- provide a brief period of relaxation from the busy life of school, when children will have time to pause for thought in an atmosphere of peace and quiet. This involves a quiet and well-ordered arrival and departure;
- provide the children with an opportunity to contemplate the spiritual dimension of their life through music, images and words. The writings of the world's great religions, their prophets and followers provide a source of meaningful stories and philosophies for life;
- provide an opportunity for private quiet contemplation and prayers;
- have a sense of occasion that separates them from the rest of the school day.

A record of all Acts of Collective Worship and 'thoughts for the week' is maintained by the Headteacher.

KPJS would like to thank the head teacher of the first school and its staff for assistance in writing this policy.

Compiled by: S. Murji	Revision Number 3
Approved by: Governing body on Oct 2011, Sept 2013, 12/10/16	Revision Date Sept 2013 Reviewed July 2016

