

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

At St Bernard's Catholic GS "we aim to follow the example of the Bernardine Sisters in placing prayer and worship at the centre of our lives" as stated in our Mission Statement. We provide an opportunity for daily collective worship for all our students; this is provided either within an assembly or, if there is no assembly, during Form Group time during morning registration.

The Headteacher is responsible (under the School Standards and Framework Act 1998) for arranging the daily collective worship after consulting with the Governing Body. Daily collective worship must be wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character. The precise nature depends on the family background, ages and abilities of the students.

The aim of our collective worship policy is to provide the opportunity for students to:

- Worship God.
- Reflect upon Christian values.
- Develop a community spirit, a common ethos and shared values.
- Consider spiritual and moral issues.
- Respond to the worship offered.
- Provide an opportunity for those students who are not Christian to reflect upon their own beliefs.

Content

An annual programme is determined for school collective worship and implemented throughout the school year. The programme follows the major religious festivals and gives strong guarantees of coverage and appropriate opportunities for student response.

Within the programme and ethos of collective worship, opportunities for leading school assembly are available to students, staff, Governors and members of the community served by the school. Responsibility for assuring the quality of the content and delivery rests with the Headteacher.

The annual programme is an enabling mechanism and does not exclude the exploration of other themes and approaches.

Implementation

Collective worship, whether in assembly or tutor time, will:

- Be acceptable to the whole community, staff and students
- Include a variety of elements at different times
- Involve the students.

Monitoring, Evaluation and Review

The policy will be promoted and implemented throughout the school. The Headteacher will monitor the implementation of this policy and report to the Governing Body periodically any supportive comments or complaints that have been received regarding the programme of collective worship, so that the programme may be developed as necessary. The Governing Body will review this policy biennially and assess its implementation and effectiveness. The efficacy of the policy will be discussed annually as part of the Chaplaincy Report.

References

Religious Education and Collective Worship Circular 1/94

School Standards and Framework Act 1998

Religious Education in English schools: non-statutory guidance 2010 from DFE.

Agreed by the Governors Catholic Life of the School Committee 29th January 2020

Review Date: Spring 2022

