

WOODLANDS SCHOOL

ASSEMBLIES – COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

Procedure/Guidance

Policy Issued: Sept 2017

Policy Author: B Gandhi-Johnson

Reviewed by: B Gandhi-Johnson

Date Reviewed: March 2020

Policies to be read in conjunction with this policy:

- Teaching & Learning
- Education – The curriculum

ASSEMBLIES: COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

WEEKLY THEMES:

Each week there is a theme which is highlighted in the assembly rota. A programme of weekly themes has been developed and integrates into the school calendar and for the PHSE programme developed through the new curriculum. The thoughts and readings for each theme have been revised and developed for 2019/2020 and each member of staff has a copy for the year. These will however be subject to revision, alteration or addition according to contemporary news and/or events throughout the year. This will ensure both progression and continuity and up to date relevance this year.

All staff taking assemblies should refer to the weekly theme which will be introduced each Monday by those taking assemblies. Some themes may be developed into a workshop to allow for extended discussion and tasks.

At times throughout the year visitors or pupils may take assemblies and should if possible follow the theme chosen for that week. Pupils are offered opportunities to worship and any pupils wanting to follow a faith are supported.

Any comments, suggestions are very welcome.

POLICY STATEMENT

Assemblies at Woodlands School follow a programme of weekly themes introduced at the beginning of the week and followed up in form assemblies and year assemblies.

Each day there is a further development of the theme to discuss focused through a short story, poem, quotation or prayer.

The nature of the themes is such that they include the valuable contributions of other world religions.

In line with our school aims assemblies are held to

1. Develop a sense of community within the school, and of being part of a wider community.
2. Celebrate achievements and special occasions in respect of individuals, the school and the wider community.
3. Make explicit and to celebrate what has meaning, value and purpose for the pupils, the school and the community.
4. To promote respect, self-esteem and mutual understanding.
5. To celebrate difference and diversity and to value others for their contribution to society.
6. Enable pupils to use silence for reflection, contemplation, meditation and if appropriate prayer.
7. To enable pupils to explore a variety of forms of worship.
8. Enabling children to explore their own beliefs in relation to those of others.

9. Provide a means by which pupils can begin to and continue to understand the language and nature of worship.

GUIDELINES

ASSEMBLIES SHOULD:-

1. Be pupil-centred, related to pupils' own experiences and relevant to their concerns.
2. Take into account the particular needs of individual pupils.
3. Foster a sense of community and shared values.
4. Be properly prepared and linked to the planned programme of themes.
5. Provide a time to be still and be reflective.
6. Provide opportunities for pupils to take part in a variety of spiritual activities.
7. Be wholly or mainly of a broad religious nature.
8. Involve visitors to school if appropriate

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I can confirm that I have read and understood this policy.

Signed:

Directors

Date

Chair of Governors

Date

Headteacher

Date

I can confirm that I have read and understood this policy.

Name (print):

Signature:

Date:
