

WOODLANDS SCHOOL

ASSEMBLIES – COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

Procedure/Guidance

Policy Issued: Sept 2017

Policy Author: B Gandhi-Johnson

***Reviewed by: B Gandhi-
Johnson/Claire Walkden***

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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, linking to the PHSE programme developed through the new curriculum and Rights Respecting Children main articles. The thoughts and readings for each theme have been revised and developed for 2022/2023 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 linking to the new curriculum and Rights Respecting Children.

Inclusion is important to our vision, and we aim for our assembly themes to be inclusive of all pupils. There is an expectation that all pupils will be present. Careful planning and preparation ensure that there are clear learning intentions for all pupils at different levels of understanding. School assemblies are first and foremost for the educational benefit of all pupils. It is a shared activity that allows for a variety of responses and the chance to express their views and listen and appreciate the views of their peers. The school is committed to respect the integrity of the backgrounds from which pupils come from.

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. 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:
