



COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

Date of Policy: October 2024

Date of next review: October 2026

Who the review will involve: Headteacher, Senior Leadership team, Staff.

Senior member of staff responsible for overseeing that this policy is implemented and regularly reviewed: Headteacher

DEVELOPMENT AND DISSEMINATION PROCESS

This policy was formulated by a working party consisting of the Senior Leadership Team and Staff.

CONTEXT

Circular 3/89 comments on Collective Worship as described in the Education Reform Act 1988 states:

“The collective worship organised by the school is to be ‘wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character’. For those acts which are broadly Christian, the main emphasis should be on the broad traditions of Christian belief. In the Secretary of State’s view, an act of worship which is ‘broadly Christian’ need not contain only Christian material provided that, taken as a whole, it reflects the traditions of Christian belief. Any such worship should not be distinctive of any particularly Christian denomination. It is not necessary for every act of worship to be of this character, but within each school term, the majority of acts must be so”.

AIMS

At The Avon Valley School, the aim of our collective worship policy is to provide the opportunity for students to:

- Contribute to the spiritual, social, moral and cultural development of each student
- Give expression to, and reaffirm and practise the values of the school community
- allow reflection and response to the fundamental questions of life and value to human beings
- Celebrate and give thanks for the achievements within the school, local and international community as well as occasions of significance, including different festivals.
- Foster and enable a concern for the needs of others, a recognition of the vulnerability of self and of others
- Consider spiritual and moral issues

STATUTORY DUTY OF THE SCHOOL

The Avon Valley School provides daily tutor activities – some of which are designed to enable all students to reflect, consider and engage with moral and spiritual issues.

The Headteacher has overall responsibility (under the School Standards and Framework Act 1998) for the collective worship after consulting with the governing body.

IMPLEMENTATION

Worship and reflection on broadly Christian values will be made available to all students through weekly high-quality assemblies, our 'thought for the week' and through RE and PSHE lessons.

A series of assemblies will be carried out during the week as follows:

House	Day	Venue
Year 11	Monday	Theatre
Year 10	Tuesday	Theatre
Year 9	Wednesday	Theatre
Year 8	Thursday	Theatre
Year 7	Friday	Theatre

Whole school assemblies may take place periodically, directed by the Headteacher. In addition to the above rota there will be Year Group assemblies at Christian festivals and Remembrance.

Year Group assemblies will be led by a member of the Senior Leadership Team or the Head of Year.

When year groups are not attending an assembly each tutor group will carry out a weekly reflection which is mainly of a broadly Christian ethos.

Collective worship:

- involves students
- is based on Christian values
- covers a variety of themes and moral issues
- is available to the whole community, staff and students

If parents require individual students to be withdrawn from an assembly on grounds of conscience or religious differences, then a written communication must be provided to the Headteacher.

RE is a statutory element to be covered by all students (unless withdrawn by parents) and will be delivered through the Social Science Faculty, following a set scheme of work.

MONITORING AND REVIEW

Heads of Year will ensure that tutors carry out the weekly 'thought for the week' and Senior Leadership will ensure that whole school assemblies and Year Group assemblies follow the policy guidelines stated herein.

This policy will be reviewed bi-annually and assessment of its effectiveness and implementation monitored on a regular basis.