

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

Rationale

Chipping Sodbury School is a diverse and multifaceted establishment which reflects the community from which it draws its students. In an effort to re-enforce community cohesion and the school's values, we will hold "collective acts of worship" of a broadly Christian nature, during school hours.

Aims

Assemblies and collective worship will:

- Reflect on values that are broadly Christian in nature
- Allow students to think and reflect about their own beliefs
- Develop a community spirit, a common ethos and shared values
- Consider spiritual and moral issues
- Build a community of respect, responsibility, aspiration and integrity
- To fulfill the statutory duty of schools

The Statutory duty:

All maintained schools provide daily collective worship for registered pupils (apart from those who have been withdrawn by their parents). This is usually provided within a daily assembly.

Guidelines

- As the school can only currently seat one year group or House at a time, collective assemblies are impossible everyday for all students.
- The Assembly Rota will give the broad themes to which the delivering member of staff will respond
- Themes will be drawn from the religious calendar and/or important national or community focal points, for example, celebration of success focus, or on the school values
- Where possible, religious services or reflection will be offered to allow students and staff to consider the impact of world and local events, for example, a Remembrance service, a Carol service at Christmas, a thought for the day
- Worship may be defined as a request to pause and reflect on their lives, experiences or beliefs or those of others
- Students whose parents do not wish them to be involved in religious assemblies will need to be alerted to their right to request to withdraw their children, once a year

The tutorial programme will provide opportunities for students to deepen the assembly theme, allowing for discussion, reflection time, re-enforcement of the theme of the week from assemblies and other topical events such as news items

Conclusion

Developing a culture of respect, responsibility, aspiration and integrity is a key aim for the community of Chipping Sodbury School. Collective worship and community celebration of these areas develop an intrinsic understanding of the broader values of a Christian society and therefore deepen the shared ethos and effect community cohesion.

Committee: School
Approved: May 2016
Review date: May 2018