



Policy Document:  
Collective Worship Policy

As adopted by the Governors of North Ridge High School.

## **POLICY ON COLLECTIVE WORSHIP**

### **Mission Statement**

The pupils, staff and governors will do their best in all aspects of life at North Ridge High. We will foster learning within an environment which is disciplined, calm, safe, stimulating, and enjoyable and within which there is mutual respect.

### **INTRODUCTION**

This Policy is carried out within the context and spirit of the school's Mission Statement. It supports and reinforces the aims of North Ridge High School, valuing all children equally.

North Ridge High School will comply with the requirements set out in the 1988 Education Reform Act regarding Collective Worship.

An Act of Collective Worship will take place every day. The time at which this takes place and the form of the Collective Worship (whole school, team or class groupings) may vary from day to day.

Collective Acts of Worship will be broadly Christian based but strive to include every pupil of every faith or belief system.

Every child will take part in the Act of Collective Worship unless withdrawn by his/her parents/guardians.

The coordinator will keep a record of all Acts of Collective Worship themes.

Whilst fully complying with the law, the school will be sensitive to the fact that not all children will come from religious families.

## **AIMS AND PRINCIPLES**

*“Collective Worship should aim to provide the opportunity for pupils to worship God, to consider spiritual and moral issues and to explore their own beliefs;*

*To encourage participation and response, whether through active involvement in the presentation of worship or through listening to and joining in the worship offered; and to develop community spirit, promote a common ethos and shared values and reinforce positive attitudes.”*

(DfEE –Circular 1/94)

The following principles guide our approach to Collective Worship at North Ridge High School.

- Collective Worship should have a sense of occasion.
- Collective Worship should provide experiences within which pupils’ spiritual development may flourish.
- Collective Worship should be a means of expressing the ethos and values of the school.
- Collective Worship should be educational and should contribute to the Religious Education of all pupils.
- Collective Worship is shaped to the needs of the school, (time, place, content, style etc.)
- We will provide a varied pattern of worship to broaden pupils’ experience of its different forms.
- Collective Worship will recognise that the school includes children from different religious and non-religious backgrounds.
- During Collective Worship some pupils will be worshipping and some will be experiencing something approaching worship; others will be finding out what it is like to worship by being with those who are.

## **OBJECTIVES**

The objectives of Collective Worship are to:-

- Affirm beliefs and values
- Introduce pupils to the practice of religious worship through music, art, story, poetry, movement and prayer.
- Create a warm, caring and respectful atmosphere in assemblies, conducive to worship; including the manner of entry and exit.
- Encourage, in children, a thoughtful and reflective attitude.
- Help pupils experience a sense of awe, wonder, reverence and inner stillness.
- Enable pupils to use silence for reflection and contemplation.
- Raise pupil’s curiosity about the ultimate mysteries of life.

- Enable pupils to reflect upon their own beliefs in relation to those of others.
- Enhance pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.
- Guide children towards the spiritual and religious options open to them.
- Help children distinguish between right and wrong.
- Affirm pupils' personal worth and responsibility.
- Celebrate individual and collective achievements.
- Develop a sense of community within the school.
- Celebrate religious festivals and special occasions with specified worship.

## **ORGANISATION OF COLLECTIVE WORSHIP AT NORTH RIDGE**

### **Monday**

KS3 Department assembly taken by co-coordinator

### **Tuesday/ Wednesday, Thursday**

Class collective worship during tutor time

### **Friday**

Department assemblies taken by Heads of Department

***Whole school assemblies will take place at the end of each term and for special festivals e.g. Harvest, Christmas, Easter and Eid***

## **REVIEW**

The Governing Body will review this policy, formally, two years from the date of its adoption. Informal Review may be necessary in the interim and should take place as and when required.

This Policy has been formally adopted by the Governing Body of North Ridge High School. It will be reviewed by the Governors, the Head Teacher and the Collective Worship Co-coordinator in conjunction with all staff two years from the date of the signature below.