



Collective Worship

Philosophy

We believe that the use of assembly and tutor time for collective worship should be educational and inclusive. It should contribute to the spiritual, moral, personal, social and cultural development of students and should reflect the aims and values of the school.

Aims

We aim to:

- a) Develop a community spirit, a common ethos and shared values.
- b) Show concern for daily happenings in school life, the local community and the wider world.
- c) Consider spiritual and moral issues.
- d) Encourage a reflective approach to life.
- e) Increase sensitivity so students are more aware of the search for meaning and purpose in life.
- f) Explore and review our values, attitudes and standards as a school
- g) Share and appreciate difference and the worth of others
- h) Celebrate special occasions, achievements etc.
- i) Develop a group identity (tutor group, year group, school).
- j) Provide opportunities to learn how to behave in a large social gathering both as 'performers' and 'respondents'.
- k) Reflect on values that are of a broad nature and on personal beliefs.
- l) Introduce students to elements of religious worship in an open and honest atmosphere.
- m) Encourage students to express their ideas and responses in a variety of different ways.
- n) Enable student growth through a sense of self-worth and through a supportive atmosphere.
- o) Encourage development of intrapersonal and interpersonal skills.

To achieve our aims we will:

- a) provide a daily act of collective worship for all students usually in a Year assembly or in the form of a 'Thought for the Week' during tutor time (apart from those students who have been withdrawn by parents)
- b) provide an appropriate atmosphere
- c) involve the whole school community (including Directors of Student Achievement, SLT, teachers, tutors, students)
- d) devise assembly/tutor time themes and topics that promote reflection.
- e) monitor our use of assembly/tutor time through record keeping and evaluative discussions with teachers, students, governors, inspectors and advisors

- f) provide assembly/tutor time resources
- g) provide INSET to tutors.

Success Criteria

We will know we have achieved our aims when:

- a) withdrawal rates from 'worship' are minimal (i.e. worship at Ashcroft is seen as inclusive).
- b) the aims and values of the school are known and shared by the whole school community.
- c) assembly/tutor time contributes to development of a whole school ethos
- d) assembly/tutor time demonstrably contributes to the spiritual, moral, personal and social development of students
- e) our use of assembly/tutor time is consistent with a multi-faith society and our anti racist policy
- f) teachers and students are included in assembly/tutor time
- g) we can demonstrate that collective worship promotes learning
- h) Collective worship at Ashcroft is synonymous with celebration, enjoyment, fun, spiritual challenge, quiet reflection and learning.

Approved by Governing Body of Ashcroft High School:	June 2017
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Governors' Committee	FGB
SLT staff responsible	Ms M Austin
Statutory Policy: Yes / No	Yes