



The Collective Worship Policy at Northern House School (Wokingham) pays due regard to statutory requirements, and has taken account of the guidance offered by the LEA through its SACRE.

Definition of Collective Worship

Collective Worship is a time when the whole school, or groups within the school, meet together in order to consider and reflect on common concerns, issues and interests. It offers all pupils an opportunity to worship through engaging in relevant, meaningful experiences and provides opportunities for the pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.

Aims of Collective Worship

For the School:

Collective Worship contributes significantly to the ethos of Northern House School (Wokingham) and it is our aim that it should be a time when the school community can:

- reflect on spiritual and moral issues
- share common aims and values that are of a broadly Christian nature
- celebrate achievement and special times
- explore together the world in which we live
- develop a community spirit, a common ethos and shared values

For the Pupils:

We also intend that Collective Worship contributes to the development of the pupil as a 'whole' person by providing opportunities to:

- worship God
- consider spiritual and moral issues
- explore their own beliefs
- develop their own spirituality
- reinforce positive attitudes
- participate and respond to the worship offered

Planning Acts of Collective Worship

The content of all acts of Collective Worship will be considered carefully, to ensure relevance and suitability for the ages, aptitudes and backgrounds of all pupils.

Planning will cover special occasions and events, but will be flexible enough to allow the inclusion of current and topical issues and the consideration of faiths other than Christianity.



The Act of Collective Worship

A variety of teaching and learning styles and active and interactive methods are appropriate in acts of Collective Worship. Northern House School (Wokingham) has a gathering every other Monday and the gathering has a moral theme. Any and all of the methods employed in the classroom can be used effectively in acts of Collective Worship. A variety of resources will also be used. Leaders will choose the style/method and resources which are appropriate to the content, the age, aptitude and the background of the pupils.

Visitors will be welcome to lead Collective Worship from time to time and will be given guidance on acts of Collective Worship at Northern House School (Wokingham). Leaders from Faiths within the area will increase the pupils' awareness, promote respect and raise the esteem of the pupils who belong to these Faiths. British Values will be referred to.

The content and process must be sufficiently stimulating in order to evoke a response in the individual. Opportunity must be given to express this response through reflection and prayer.

If announcements are to be given at the same time as an act of worship then they will be of a positive nature, which at times may enhance the act of worship itself. Announcements will be made either preceding the act of worship or at the end and a clearly defined break between them and the act of worship will be made. (A change of personnel, music, a moment of silence etc.)

Withdrawal

Any parent who objects to their child attending an act or acts of Collective Worship may request that their child is withdrawn. Parents are encouraged to discuss this with the Principal. Any pupil who is withdrawn from an act or acts of Collective Worship will be supervised during that time by a member of the school staff.

Monitoring, Evaluation and Review

Northern House School (Wokingham) will review this policy annually and assess its implementation and effectiveness. The policy will be promoted and implemented throughout the school.