



Newbridge Junior School

Thinking School Academy Trust
“Transforming Life Chances”

Collective Worship Policy

This Policy was adopted in December 2019
The Policy is to be reviewed in December 2021

Principles

1. As a school we follow the requirements of the 1988 Education Reform Act.
2. Collective worship is an integral part of the broad and balanced curriculum to which all our children are entitled.
3. Collective worship in school is open to all staff and pupils and no assumptions are made about their personal commitment.
4. Whilst awareness of other religious traditions and beliefs may be raised, we recognise that the proper place for fuller exploration of these issues is in religious education.

Legal Requirements

(For details see School Standard Framework Act 1988 and circular1/94)

- All pupils must take part in a daily act of collective worship, unless they have been withdrawn from it by their parents.
- Parents have the right to withdraw their children from collective worship and parents or carers do not have to explain or give reasons for their request.
- Collective worship must be “Wholly or mainly of a Christian character,” that is be within the broad traditions of Christian beliefs, on the majority of occasions.
- Collective worship is non-denominational.

Aims of collective Worship

- To establish affirm and celebrate the common and shared values of the school.
- To nurture the identity and nature of the school as a community.
- To develop positive social and moral values in pupils.
- To raise spiritual awareness.
- To deepen knowledge of Christian values, beliefs, celebrations and patterns of worship.
- To develop awareness of other beliefs, traditions, cultures and patterns of worship.

To provide a space in time which:

- Allows a pause for reflection and stillness in the midst of the pressure of the school day.
- Provides a rhythm to the life of the school by marking and celebrating special occasions and achievements.
- Facilitates the development of a sense of community, of belonging and sharing.
- Encourages pupils to learn how to be part of large and small gatherings, as well as offering opportunities to perform and respond to a presentation.
- Allows for celebration and reflection on things held to be of worth or have meaning for us.

Approaches

As Newbridge is a split site school, daily worship is provided through the following means:

- Years 3, 4, 5 have assembly together in the main hall 4 times a week
- Year 6 use the hall at The Portsmouth Academy for their act of worship 4 times a week.
- Class assembly is held once a week in classrooms.
- At least once a term, whole school assembly is held for years 3 – 6 in the hall at The Portsmouth Academy.
-

At Newbridge School, collective worship comprises:

Monday	Values assembly led by senior leadership team. This assembly introduces the School value of the week. This assembly may also follow a theme for the half term such as Kindness. Writer of the week celebration
Tuesday	Class Assembly led by the School Council – focuses on the ‘Think of the Week’ or themes such as the School Golden Rules, British Values or issues raised by the school council such as rough play on the playground.
Wednesday	Singing assembly
Thursday	Theme assembly led by teachers. The themes are planned to reflect special awareness days and festivals of the major world faiths.
Friday	Assembly led by SLT (wherever possible the same staff member as Monday) The assembly offers the children the chance to reflect on how they have been trying to meet the value of the week or the theme introduced during Monday’s assembly. Also includes a celebration aspect recognising hard work, good behaviour, attendance, maths effort as well as acknowledging children who have met the weekly value.

Our assembly themes are taken from the traditions of the Christian faith, SEAL (Social and Emotional Aspects of Learning), Special awareness days, current world events, Religious festivals and British Values.

On some occasions visitors will lead assemblies such as clergy from local churches, representatives of charitable organisations and other speakers. The school visits the church annually at Easter for the Easter performance which is led by year 4.

Parents have the right to withdraw their children from RE lessons and Collective Worship but we encourage discussion with the head teacher or RE leader (deputy headteacher) before such a decision is made.

Should parents wish to withdraw their children, they should notify the headteacher in writing.

Monitoring, Evaluation and Review

The school will review this policy every two year and assess its implementation and effectiveness.

The policy will be promoted and implemented throughout the school.