



CITY OF BIRMINGHAM EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

BASKERVILLE SCHOOL

Collective Worship Policy

Date reviewed: November 2017
Next review: November 2018

BASKERVILLE SCHOOL, FELLOWS LANE, HARBORNE, BIRMINGHAM, B17 9TS

TELEPHONE : 0121 427 3191
FAX : 0121 428 2204

VISION STATEMENT

We will ensure the entitlement of each student to access a variety of opportunities to promote academic, social, emotional and physical development.

We will use autistic specific, empathetic approaches and an autistic sympathetic learning environment to promote student learning and personal development.

We will provide choices and challenges in order to maximise potential and build upon strengths and interests.

All the members of the school community are valued equally and work in partnership with parents, carers and the wider community.

We will work within a supportive school framework to promote and celebrate individual success, integration into the wider community and prepare students for life after school.

INTRODUCTION AND RATIONALE

The Law requires that where practical every pupil should attend a daily act of collective worship and the school aims to achieve this.

The role of staff leading collective worship is to support the ethos of the school which seeks to foster the pupils' spiritual development, to help them become useful members of society accepting their responsibilities as well as their rights, and to help pupils to develop understanding and acceptance of the values of faiths, cultures and societies other than their own.

The school respects the rights of parents to withdraw their child from any or all acts of collective worship.

AIMS

Acts of collective worship provide opportunities for the school community of diverse individuals from different family and faith backgrounds to meet together. In order to develop this aim, acts of collective worship should:

- Promote the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of the pupils;
- Be consistent with the aims of the school;
- Be quality learning opportunities relevant to the pupils' experience;

- Foster a sense of group identity and provide experience of being part of a community, sharing the values of the school;
- Provide a time for reflection on spiritual and moral issues and values, pausing from immediate concerns to consider fundamental questions and the importance of religious beliefs to those who hold them;
- Provide opportunities for pupils to consider and explore their own beliefs and those of other people;
- Promote respect for the integrity of individuals and faiths;
- Provide opportunities for pupils to worship;
- Encourage participation and response, for example through active involvement or listening;
- Provide opportunities to celebrate such things as achievement and special occasions, and to share feelings such as thankfulness, joy, friendship, sadness and hope.

OBJECTIVES

Collective worship should be:

Educational

- It is governed by the same educational criteria that apply to other educational activities in school.
- It reflects and enhances the school curriculum.
- It provides the school with opportunities to reflect on its own educational purpose.

Inclusive

- All members of the school community should recognise the relevance of the activity even though levels of participation, involvement, affirmation and challenge may vary.
- Collective worship is in accordance with the LEA and school policies on equal opportunities.

Spiritual

- It has a distinctive intention – making time and space within the day to consider and reflect on the values, beliefs and feelings, which may lead to worship.
- Evoke senses such as beauty, wonder, awe, pride, stillness, peace etc.
- It reflects the ethos of the school.

LEGAL REQUIREMENT

1. All pupils should take part in an act of collective worship on each school day.

Note

This applies to all pupils in county schools, including those in Post-16 provision. The legal requirement for special schools is that the school should secure, so far as is practicable, that every pupil attends a daily act of collective worship.

2. There may be a single act of collective worship for all pupils or separate acts for pupils in different age groups or school groups.
3. The Head Teacher, after consultation with the Governing Body, is responsible for the arrangements for collective worship.
4. Acts of collective worship must take place on the school premises.
5. Taken over a school term, the majority of acts of collective worship must be wholly or mainly of a broad Christian character. They should reflect the broad traditions of a Christian belief without being distinctive of a particular Christian denomination.
6. Acts of collective worship should be appropriate to the family backgrounds, ages and abilities of the pupils.
7. Parents have the right to withdraw their child from any or all acts of collective worship. *The parent does not have to give a reason for this request.*
8. All teachers (including the Head Teacher) retain the right to withdraw from acts of collective worship.

9. The school must publish its arrangements for collective worship in the school prospectus.

Delivery and Organisation

The overall responsibility for collective worship is the Head Teacher's. However, the Head Teacher and the Assistant Head Teachers share the planning and co-ordination.

Festivals

All the main Christian festivals are celebrated during the course of the year, as are some of the major festivals of other world religions.

Equal Opportunities

This policy should be read in conjunction with the school Equal Opportunities policy, both having common aims. Both policies seek to encourage and enable pupils to have respect for self and others regardless of race, gender, disability, sexuality and religion and are pro-active in teaching pupils to learn to have an understanding and appreciation of different religions, both within the school and in the wider community.

Monitoring, Evaluation and Review

The Assistant Head Teacher will maintain a record of all acts of collective worship themes. Our daily reflections are on the S-drive.

The school will review this policy regularly and will assess and evaluate its implementation and effectiveness.