

SIR GRAHAM BALFOUR



SCHOOL

***ASSEMBLIES
AND COLLECTIVE
WORSHIP POLICY***

*learning
working
together
succeeding*

SIR GRAHAM BALFOUR POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

CHANGE CONTROL

| Date | Issue | Details of change | |
|-----------------|-------------|---|------------|
| <i>May 2000</i> | <i>1</i> | <i>Assemblies Policy Document</i> | |
| <i>Jan 2004</i> | <i>2</i> | | <i>LAD</i> |
| <i>22.05.06</i> | <i>3.a</i> | <i>Rewrite</i> | <i>SOT</i> |
| <i>27.06.06</i> | <i>4.00</i> | <i>Issue etc. Updated after Governor Approval</i> | |
| | | | |

AUTHORISATION

Approved at full Governors Meeting. 26th June 2006

Signed:

Chair of Governors

Date:

Effective Date: 27th June 2006

Assemblies Policy/Procedure

Issue: 4.0

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INTRODUCTION

Our students are involved in as many acts of collective worship as the school can accommodate (Education Reform Act 1988). Assemblies are also held for communicating information.

AIMS

- To organise collective worship which is “wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character”. This need not contain only Christian material provided that, taken as a whole, it reflects the traditions of Christian belief. It is not necessary for every act of worship to be of this character, but within each school term, the majority of acts must be so. Worship is interpreted as broadly meaning a celebration of that which is worthy.
- To promote the spiritual, moral, cultural and social development of students at the school and in society.
- To prepare students for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life.

KEY ELEMENTS

- The Assembly Co-ordinator negotiates an annual list of collective worship themes, some of a broadly Christian nature, some dealing with other faiths, some covering Citizenship/PSHE topics which are not dealt with via the curriculum.
- The Assembly co-ordinator invites outside speakers, in particular church leaders, to lead collective worship at least once a term.
- House Heads agree a rota based on the House Group students planning and delivering collective worship at least twice a year.
- House Heads themselves introduce and preside over all House collective worship in an appropriately calm, positive and respectful manner. They use the last few minutes only for House information.
- House Heads take a monthly Year Assembly, as distinct from collective worship, to communicate information and issues affecting that year group (eg the role of ambassador in Year 8).
- In the other 3 weeks of the month when collective worship is House (and not year) related, the Monday information meeting (MIM) allows a year group to share information of an urgent and topical nature if desired.

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- The Leadership Group deliver the rest of the collective worship throughout the year.
- For at least 2 of the remaining 4 days left in the week House Groups a) follow a Citizenship Programme and b) respond to the week's collective worship topic, offering their own points of view in both oral and written form ("assembly follow-up").
- Stimuli and teaching materials for the assembly follow-up are published by the assembly speaker in the Student Bulletin each Monday.
- Work produced from assembly follow-up is displayed on House Boards or in the House Group base classroom.
- Extra work (as in last 2 bullet points) is provided by the Assembly Coordinator during public exam season when the Hall is less available.
- Parents' rights to withdraw their children from collective worship are respected; work is set for children who are not allowed to attend.
- Thought for the Day is published in daily electronic form in Reception and in the Bulletin.
- A prayer room is allocated to students who wish to worship at other times during the day.
- The Religious Education Curriculum teachers respect for and understanding of different faiths and beliefs.

MONITORING AND EVALUATION

- The Link Leadership Group member attends the weekly House Assembly and also all 5 Year Group Assemblies to ensure quality attention by students and to monitor quality delivery by the speaker of the day. Assemblies are a minuted agenda item at the monthly link Leadership Group/House Head meeting.
- House Heads are responsible for monitoring the quality of response in the assembly follow-up by observing House Time at least termly; they are also responsible for evaluating student response to each act of worship.
- House Board displays reflect the level of student thought and discussion which has resulted in assembly follow-up material; displays are changed at least termly and are monitored by House Heads.

The names of any nominated/designated people are available from the School Office.

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