

The Leigh Academy Collective Worship/Assembly Guidelines Policy



Collective Worship/Assembly Guidelines

Rationale

In compliance with legal requirements, all students are required to take part in a weekly act of collective worship, 'wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character, reflecting the broad traditions of Christian belief, without being distinctive of any particular denomination'.

All assemblies must be appropriate to students, taking into account their ages, aptitudes and family backgrounds.

Collective worship is the coming together of the Academy, or College, community to celebrate collective values, whether in a formal traditional assembly, tutor group, circle time or other activities.

Our aims are to:

- Lay the foundations of spiritual experience in students, which they may develop later into the capacity for mature worship.
- Promote an understanding of our cultural and spiritual heritage.

Our objectives are to:

- Celebrate the shared values of the Academy community, e.g.
 - Responsibility for community and the individual.
 - Collective and individual aspirations.
 - Recognising and promoting effort.
 - The pursuit of truth.
 - Respect for persons and property.
- Share experience as a large group:
 - Develop the practice of reflection on spiritual and moral issues.
 - Focus on the 'special' occasion/celebration.

- Introduce students appropriately to traditional forms of worship.
- Induce a sense of awe and wonder

Guidelines

Format

Assemblies must be conducted within a formal and dignified structure, which enables the serious message to be delivered to a receptive audience. Students are expected to enter and wait in silence, to rise when requested to do so, to greet the conducting teacher and acknowledge his/her departure.

Tutors must sit with their tutor group during assemblies.

Delivery may be in a variety of styles including formal staff presentations, tutor group presentations, readings or musical performances, but there must be a clearly stated religious, moral or ethical element.

The Leigh Academy Collective Worship/Assembly timetable is published at the beginning of every Academic year. All tutor sets, when not in a formal assembly, must be involved in a range of activities structured around Social, Moral, Cultural and Spiritual themes, either using the work provided by the Principal/Vice Principal, Student Services Manager or their own, provided by the students or the tutor themselves.

Venue

Due to lack of space for a 'whole Academy' assembly, The Lecture Theatre is allocated to assemblies on a rota basis.

On all days when tutor sets are not involved in assemblies, **the Tutor provides appropriate content in the tutor room, which can take the form of group activities, discussions, readings or reflection on a broadly Social, Moral, Cultural and Spiritual theme.**

Leadership of Assemblies

The Principals, Vice Principals, Directors of Learning and Tutors, are involved with the planning of Assemblies and their delivery. Whilst they are responsible for the delivery and organisation of their respective assemblies, the delivery can and should be shared with all members of the wider community.

Notices and presentations should be kept to a minimum and can only be included, by prior arrangement, with the person in charge of the assembly.