



Collective Worship Policy

Introduction

In Local Authority schools the Education Reform Act Section 7 requires collective worship to be wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character, that is, it reflects the broad traditions of Christian belief. Christians share many beliefs and practices, attitudes and customs with those of other faiths and those of none. It is these broad traditions of belief which underline collective worship at Four Acres Academy.

Through the use of songs, story, drama, dance, prayer, music, readings and silence people may come to a deeper understanding of the spiritual dimension to their lives. They may come to a greater awareness of other people, themselves and their world in the light of which they may go out to live and work in the community.

Responsible Persons

The Head of Religious Education is responsible for ensuring that this policy is implemented in the Academy.

Relevant Legislation

Local Authority's Education Reform Act section 7.

Associated Policies

Equal Opportunities

Worship

It must be recognised that the inward response of each person present constitutes worship and not the repetition of songs and prayers. These may be a vehicle of worship but they are not worship itself. Staff and pupils should be given opportunity to respond in their own way so that no-one is excluded by reason of background, culture, religions or non-religious stance. “Worship” = Anglo-Saxon for “honour” to give worth to something/someone.

Collective worship at Four Acres Academy is for all pupils and staff. It forms either all or a small part of an assembly. Collective Worship has the potential to unite the whole school membership to help develop a sense of community. Collective worship is part of the school's contribution to promoting the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of every child. It is a time to celebrate the worth and value of all in the school community.

Collective worship at Four Acres Academy will comply with DFE Circular 1/94 “Religious Education and Collective Worship” which states that collective worship:-

- i. is intended to be such that children from a non-Christian background can take part
- ii. must contain some element which can be related to the Christian tradition
- iii. must accord some special status to the person of Jesus Christ
- iv. must not be denominational

