Collective Worship Policy

This policy is called:	Collective Worship Policy
It applies to:	All staff at Bolder Academy
Person responsible for its revision:	Headteacher
Status:	Non- Statutory
Published on:	The Academy Website
Approval by:	Senior Leadership Team
Review frequency:	Every two years
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Date of next approval:	Dec 2023

Aims

At Bolder Academy we believe that collective worship should:

- Provide the opportunity for students to participate in worship.
- Give expression to, reaffirm and model the values of the Academy community: be kind, be strong, be brave.
- Be acceptable to the whole community, staff and students.
- Provide an experience that supports the social, moral, spiritual and cultural development of students.
- Be broadly Christian in nature (non-denominational and inclusive of all faiths and beliefs).
- Include multi-cultural topics to help celebrate and understand the diversity of our society.
- Celebrate and give thanks for achievements within the Academy, local and international community, and on occasions of significance, including festivals.
- Encourage students to reflect on their own place in the community, to understand the importance of British values, and how these values shape us in terms of being responsible citizens.
- Encourage a respect for self and engender a concern for the needs of others.
- Allow reflection and response to the fundamental questions of life and those things that are of eternal concern and value to human beings.

Legal Requirements for Collective Worship

Under Bolder Academy's funding agreement, "the Academy Trust shall make provision for the teaching of religious education and for a daily act of collective worship". Under this agreement, worship should be of a broadly Christian, non-denominational character.

This is also in accordance with Hounslow's SACRE and the local authority's guidance for collective worship.

(SACRE is the Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education. All local authorities are required by law to have a SACRE to advise on matters concerning the teaching of Religious Education and Collective Acts of Worship and make determinations of cases in which the requirement for Christian collective worship is not to apply.)

Collective worship will be addressed mainly through year group Assemblies and other periodic events. Content will be based on a thematic approach and

adjustments made for each year group, where necessary. Assemblies will begin with a musical piece to set the appropriate tone.

Monday: Year 10 Wednesday: Year 9 Thursday: Year 8 Friday: Year 7

However, in exceptional circumstances, alternative methods of delivery may be employed. Assemblies may be delivered virtually to students in classrooms, or at home, via Microsoft Teams. This ensures students have continuity and the social, moral, spiritual and cultural needs of the child are met in every situation.

Students and Staff

Bolder Academy will respect the rights of all parents who wish to withdraw their child from collective worship. If parents/carers wish to withdraw their child from collective worship they should discuss this with the Headteacher. Where a decision is made to withdraw, provision will be made for the child to be supervised elsewhere during the act of worship.

Bolder Academy respects the entitlement of its staff and will recognise that they should not be directed to lead collective worship.

Guest speakers may be invited to the Assembly to talk about the topic; when this happens, it is the responsibility of students to ensure that their behaviour is respectful and considerate.

Planning, Recording & Review

Collective worship will be treated as any other part of Academy life.

Students will be asked to share their experiences and thoughts about Assemblies during Personal Development time and other student voice opportunities.

Leadership Team members are present during Assemblies and so will review the Assemblies that take place, along with the thoughts of the member of staff delivering the Assembly. The co-ordinator for Assemblies will keep a record of the Assembly and ensure that the content and methodology should be varied.

A programme of Assembly themes will be established in the Staff Handbook prior to the beginning of the academic year and a rota of staff will be arranged. Themes may be changed in response to newsworthy events.