



Eskdale School

Collective Worship

Policy

Eskdale School aims:

To develop as a vibrant, dynamic community committed to the principles of "Every Child Matters" so that all of our students

- are safe and healthy
- enjoy and achieve
- make a positive contribution
- experience success so that they are equipped to make their way in the world of work.

Governance Status

This policy will be reviewed every three years or sooner if new circumstances necessitate this

Document Status	
Document Title:	COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY
Date Approved:	June 2020
Date of Review:	June 2023
Signed: (Chair of Governors)	<i>Pen Cruz</i>

Eskdale School Collective Worship Policy

1. Introduction

Eskdale School is Secondary School in North Yorkshire, catering for children aged from 11 to 16.

This Collective Worship policy has been designed with our school population in mind. It has been written in accordance with guidance from North Yorkshire's Standing Advisory Council for RE (SACRE), reflects the requirements of the 1988 Education Reform Act and strengthens the community ethos of the school.

2. Policy Statement

Collective Worship at Eskdale School will be reflective of the multi-faith background of the student population. We will endeavour to ensure that all students feel valued, no matter what their faith or beliefs and respect the responses of individual students

Eskdale School aims to provide the following opportunity for students:

- 2.1 To gather together in a community setting in order to develop community spirit, promote shared values of tolerance, support and understanding and to encourage positive attitudes
- 2.2 To encourage students to consider their own place in the community and what it means to be a citizen
- 2.3 To actively engage in worshipping God in a way which is appropriate to those of any religion or no religion in order to consider the multi-faith background of the student population
- 2.4 To explore spiritual and moral issues and empower students to identify and develop their own beliefs
- 2.5 To acknowledge and respect difference and diversity
- 2.6 To develop a sense of shared values and achievements which cross cultural and religious boundaries
- 2.7 To provide opportunity for individual reflection
- 2.8 To listen and think about the world, themselves and others
- 2.9 To encourage acknowledgement of the achievements, struggles and sufferings of other human beings

The school values the impact of collective worship on the wellbeing of all members of the school community and ensures that collective worship is regularly monitored and evaluated by the Senior Leadership Team and the school governors.

3. Organisation and Content of Collective Worship

Weekly assemblies take place for all year groups, with Key Stage 3 (Years 7, 8 and 9) meeting together one afternoon a week, and Key Stage 4 (Years 10 and 11) meeting together one afternoon a week. Assemblies are led by a member of the leadership team and guest speakers are invited where appropriate. Other assemblies may be organised for special events such as the presentation of awards and the celebration of achievements. Due to the limitations of the school building and the school day, it is impossible for the school to comply completely with the requirements in terms of the frequency of collective worship. We have made all reasonable efforts to comply with the legislation.

The content of each assembly is designed to enhance the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of students. They provide opportunities for reflection, celebrate and praise achievements and promote recognition of each student's own worth and potential. Collective worship contributes to the ethos of the school by promoting shared values of tolerance, support and understanding and by encouraging students to have a positive attitude towards their learning, towards one another and towards the wider community.

4. The rights of withdrawal

Under no circumstances will students be asked to accept beliefs which are contrary to their family background. Parents may withdraw their children from Collective Worship on grounds of conscience should they wish to do so, but we believe that Collective Worship is inclusive and beneficial for all students. Parents are asked to contact the Head Teacher, Andy Fyfe, to discuss any concerns. The school continues to be responsible for the supervision of any student withdrawn from Collective Worship.