

ST BARTHOLOMEW'S SCHOOL

ASSEMBLIES AND ACTS OF WORSHIP POLICY

Approved by Teaching & Learning Committee, Summer 2009

Approved by Full Governing Body, Summer 2009

To be reviewed Summer 2011

PURPOSE

- To promote a sense of community and develop a school ethos.
- To develop spiritual awareness.
- To provide opportunities to celebrate success.
- To communicate with all students and staff.
- To fulfil the school's legal responsibilities.

GUIDELINES

- A broad range of staff, students and outside speakers, including the Leadership Team and the House Heads, are involved in assemblies.
- A programme of assembly topics with resource materials is provided, in advance, to staff and students leading assemblies.
- Tutor group presentations, videos, drama and a thought for the day approach, using topical matter and student's own experiences, are encouraged.
- Within this framework the broadly Christian tradition in this country will be recognised and a prayer included when appropriate, while respecting the integrity of those taking assemblies.
- Whenever possible seated venues are used.
- All students in the appropriate year/house attend unless parents have arranged for withdrawal on religious grounds.
- Tutors attend with their groups and all staff attend whole school assemblies. The only exceptions are those staff who have the Head's permission not to attend for reasons of conscience.

IMPLEMENTATION

Assemblies are arranged for:

- a) The whole school, using an outdoor venue when weather permits during the Summer Term and first half of the Autumn Term (one per week)
or
- b) Each year group (one per fortnight). Odd: 7, 9, 12/13: 10.10-10.25am
Even: 8, 10, 11: 10.10-10.25am
- c) House assembly (one per fortnight). Odd: E/P: 8.40-8.55am
Even: C/D: 8.40-8.55pm
- d) Friday morning Year assemblies are held throughout the year.

On days when the tutor group does not have an assembly, time is given for reflection.

Remembrance Day:

Services are held annually, on Luker and Wormestall sites.

Founders's Day:

A service is held annually at St. Nicolas' Church, attended by selected year groups.

Carol Services:

An evening service is held annually in December attended by staff, students, friends and parents on a voluntary basis.

The Deputy Head: Teaching & Learning will have a budget for all assemblies including Founder's Day and the Carol Service.

EVALUATION

Annually, via the Senior Staff meeting.

Signed by Chairman

Date