

St Bartholomew's School

Assemblies & Acts of Worship Policy

Reviewed by the Governors' Education Committee, Summer 2021

Approved by the Full Governing Body, Summer 2021

To be reviewed Summer 2024

PURPOSE

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

GUIDELINES

- Assemblies take place in the middle of the school day at either 12.10pm or 12.40pm
- Year group assemblies take place once a week for each year cohort. Whole school and House assemblies each take place every three weeks.
- Year group assemblies are led by a member of the Leadership Team, House assemblies by the House Head and whole school assemblies by the Headteacher. A broad range of staff, students and outside speakers are involved in presenting. A thought for the day approach, using topical matter and students' own experiences, is encouraged, as are assemblies linked to national awareness weeks.
- Assemblies are also planned to support the Personal Development Programme (PDP) in delivering the broader PSHE curriculum.
- 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 leading assemblies;
- Whenever possible, seated venues will be used, most typically the Hall, although in some instances assemblies will be held remotely making use of Microsoft Teams software;
- All students in the appropriate year/house attend unless parents have arranged for withdrawal on religious grounds;
- Tutors of Years 7-11 attend with their groups and all staff attend whole school assemblies. The only exceptions are those staff who have the Headteacher's permission not to attend for reasons of conscience.

IMPLEMENTATION

Remembrance Day

Services are held annually in the Luker Hub.

Founder's Day

A service is held annually at St. Nicolas' Church, attended by Years 7 & 8.

Carol Service

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

EVALUATION

Annually via the Senior Staff meeting and reviewed by the Governors' Education Committee

Agreed by the Full Governing Body on Wednesday 14th July, 2021