

# **ST BARTHOLOMEW'S SCHOOL**

## **Assemblies & Acts of Worship Policy**

**Reviewed by the Governors' Education Committee, Spring 2025**

**Approved by the Full Governing Body, Spring 2025**

**To be reviewed Summer 2027**

### **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**

- Year and whole school 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 assemblies each take place every three weeks.
- Each House has an assembly on a weekly basis. These take place at 08.30.
- 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. Assemblies refer to topical content and students' own experiences with content frequently 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.

**Carol Service**

An evening service is held annually in December at St Nicolas' Church, Newbury 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 at their meeting on 26<sup>th</sup> March 2025.***