



Collective Worship Policy

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Collective Worship Policy – Nov 2021

Collective Worship Policy

1. PRINCIPLES

- 1.1 Queen Katharine Academy believes that collective worship both supports and strengthens what we aim to do in every aspect of Academy life. We have a caring ethos and we value the development of the whole person; spiritually, morally, socially, culturally and intellectually. This is reflected in our collective worship as a learning organisation.
- 1.2 It is a legal requirement that all registered school age pupils/students take part in an act of worship each day. These acts of worship must be “wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character” for the majority of the time. They must also be “appropriate, having regard to the ages, aptitudes and family backgrounds of the pupils.”
- 1.3 Parents/carers who send their children to Queen Katharine Academy are from a range of faith backgrounds, including Christian, Muslim, Hindu, Jewish, etc... The Academy also has pupils/students from non-faith backgrounds. We recognise that in asking our pupils/students to worship we have to consider the background of our pupils/students and it is therefore not the practice at Queen Katharine Academy to preach to or aim to convert the pupils/students to a particular faith. The faith or non-faith background of every member of staff and pupil/student is respected at all times.

2. AIMS

- 2.1 Through our collective worship we aim to provide a caring and supportive environment for pupils/students to:
- Become increasingly aware of themselves as individuals and groups within the Academy and wider community;
 - Grow in understanding of the feelings of other people in everyday situations and beliefs;
 - Explore the language which people use to express their feelings;
 - Deepen their sense of wonder about the world around them;
 - Grow in confidence when making a presentation to the group or whole Academy;
 - Respond freely to religious and/or spiritual stimulus;
 - Acknowledge diversity and affirm each person’s life stance and world view, whether it be religious or not.

3. PRACTICE

- 3.1 At Queen Katharine Academy we combine our acts of worship with assemblies, helping to ensure that worship takes place within a broad educational framework. There is an assembly each fortnight for every student in the main Academy which incorporates reflection time. In addition, Form Tutors lead Tutor Groups through activities and reflections during daily Tutor Time.
- 3.1 The Progress Leader will lead whole Year Group assemblies each fortnight, whilst Form Tutors lead the Tutor Time theme each day during the fortnight. The Principal also leads an assembly every week and the Student Leadership Team also contribute through assemblies.
- 3.2 The Academy ethos is built around the school RESPECT code which links in with the UNICEF Rights of the Child as part of QKA’s Rights Respecting Schools status and there are also opportunities for spiritual reflection and focus throughout the year on religious festivals, known national or international events. These themes incorporate all aspects of the Social, Moral, Spiritual and Cultural development of our pupils/students.

3.3 Health and Cultural Education lessons are also divided into topics, which incorporate all aspects of the Social, Moral, Spiritual and Cultural development of our pupils/student.

4 ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

4.1 A calendar of Tutor Time themes is delivered on an annual basis and the Subject Leader for Health and Cultural Education is responsible for planning the PD topics on a yearly basis.

4.2 All tutors follow a consistent programme across the academic year.

4.3 Parents/Carers of pupils have a right to withdraw their children from collective worship. If a parent/carer asks for their child to be wholly or partly excused from attending collective worship at the school, the Academy must comply unless the request is withdrawn. Any parent/carer who wishes to exercise this right should consult the Progress Leader in the first instance.

4.4 The Education and Inspection Act 2006 makes provision for students in post-16 education to exercise the right to withdraw themselves from the daily act of collective worship, but not from assembly.

4.5 The Deputy Principal for Quality of Education is responsible for ensuring this policy is reviewed annually and made accessible to parents/carer, staff, pupils/students and the Local Academic Committee via the Academy's website.

5 DISSEMINATION

5.1 This policy is shared with all staff through the Academy VLE and Induction process. An electronic version of the policy is available to download from the Academy's website.

6 MONITORING AND REVIEW

6.1 The theme, assemblies and Health and Cultural Education lessons are subject to monitoring through Quality Improvement systems and are reviewed on an annual basis.