



Policy for Collective Worship and Assemblies

Richard Cobden Primary School Assemblies and Collective Worship Policy

The Aim of Assemblies

The aim of Assemblies at Richard Cobden is to provide the opportunity for pupils to:

- Reflect on their own values and beliefs as well as those of others
- Develop a community spirit, a common ethos and shared values
- Consider spiritual and moral issues

Assemblies offer opportunities for our children and staff to come together to reflect on the meaning of beliefs and values held in the wider community, concerning matters of ethical and philosophical importance or significance to people. They reflect the breadth of values and beliefs within our school and wider community.

In 2024, the Governing Body of Richard Cobden, after consultation with parents, applied for a 'determination' giving the school the right to hold assemblies that are not 'wholly or mainly of a Christian nature'. This decision was based on statistics showing that our community is of no one main religious group and over 90% say they are not Christian.

The Statutory Duty of School

All schools must provide a daily assembly for registered pupils (apart from those who have been withdrawn by their parents). The Headteacher is responsible (under the School Standards and Framework Act 1998) for arranging the daily assembly after consulting with the Governing Body. In the light of the Christian traditions of Great Britain, section 7(1) of the Education Reform Act (and the corresponding section of the Education Act 1993) says that collective worship organised by a county or equivalent grant-maintained school is to be 'wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character'.

Withdrawal

Parents have the right to withdraw their child from assembly and should inform the Headteacher if they wish to do so.

Implementation

As a school we hold an assembly every day in the hall. Assemblies are led by the Headteacher, Senior Leaders and classteachers on a rota system.

Day of the week	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
KS1	Collective worship theme and or/ relevant school issues linked to school and british values or religious festivals	Achievement Assembly (where children are celebrated for achievement in learning and/or behaviour)	Collective worship theme and or/ relevant school issues linked to school and british values or religious festivals	Music Assembly	Collective worship theme and or/ relevant school issues linked to school and british values or religious festivals
KS2	Achievement Assembly (where children are celebrated for achievement in learning and/or behaviour)	Music Assembly	Collective worship theme and or/ relevant school issues linked to school and british values or religious festivals	Collective worship theme and or/ relevant school issues linked to school and british values or religious festivals	Collective worship theme and or/ relevant school issues linked to school and british values or religious festivals

The Headteacher, in consultation with staff, chooses a range of topics based on current events, religious festivals and needs of the school. These themes are found on our assembly plans.

During Assembly we give opportunities for children to reflect on what was presented through discussion and in silence. We involve the children by asking lots of questions and eliciting their views and ideas.

Monitoring, Evaluation and Review

The school will review this policy and the determination in 2025 and assess its implementation and effectiveness.