

# Ebor Gardens & Victoria Primary Academy



## Guidance: Collective Worship

Guidance updated	July 2023
Guidance adopted	July 2023
Review date	July 2026

## **Introduction**

Victoria and Ebor Gardens Primary academies are committed to providing a broad, balanced and effective education for all the children who attend our schools.

## **Definition of Collective Worship**

Collective Worship is a time when the whole school, or groups within the school meet together in order to consider and reflect on common concerns, issues and interests. It offers all pupils an opportunity to worship through engaging in relevant, meaningful experiences and provides opportunities for the pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.

## **The Organisation of Collective Worship**

Collective Worship is organised to provide a variety of groupings and will take place in the school hall or the classroom. Acts of worship will usually last for approximately 15 minutes, although it is recognized that this time will be shortened or lengthened when it is appropriate. Collective acts of worship are incorporated into assemblies, RE and PSHCE lessons

## **Aims**

Collective Worship contributes significantly to the ethos of our academies and it is our aim that it is a time when the school community can:

- Provide a variety of opportunities for spiritual, moral, social and cultural development
- share common aims and values
- reflect on values that are of a broadly Christian nature and on their own beliefs;
- consider spiritual and moral issues;
- celebrate achievement and special times
- explore together the world in which we live
- develop a community spirit

We also intend that Collective Worship contributes to the development of the pupil as a 'whole' person by providing opportunities to:

- explore their own beliefs and develop their own spirituality
- reinforce positive attitudes
- participate and respond
- reflect on what it means to be a member of our community
- consider the wonders and worries of the world
- Celebrate achievements and encourage pupils to aspire to making positive contributions to the community now and in their future lives
- Provide opportunities for expressing shared experiences and interests and for celebrating special occasions together

## **The School Community**

Our academies are made up of people from different religions and cultures. Therefore, assemblies are conducted in a manner which is sensitive to the diversity of our school communities through the reflection and celebration of traditions of the main religions, particularly those that are represented in the school and the wider community.

## **Implementation**

Collective worship, whether in assembly, morning welcome or curriculum time, will:

- be acceptable to the whole community, staff and pupils;
- include a variety of elements at different times;
- involve the pupils.

Parents have the right to withdraw their child from the daily act of collective worship. If you wish to instruct us to withdraw your child from collective worship then we request that you arrange to speak to the (Executive) Principal in order to establish a clear, mutual understanding.

## **Monitoring, Evaluation and Review**

The (Executive) Principal will review this policy every three years and assess its implementation and effectiveness.