Woodlands

respect resilience responsibility

Collective Worship Policy

Date: July 2026

Review Date: July 2027

Collective Worship

Member of staff responsible: Deputy Head Teacher and Lead Teacher of RE

PRINCIPLES:

At Woodlands we believe that collective worship both supports and strengthens what we aim to do in every aspect of school life. This is under-pinned by our three school values of Respect, Responsibility and Resilience, which are at the heart of our school life and our focus on the development of the whole child.

We value this time in the school day for the space it gives children to develop a reflective approach to life and the ability to express their reflections in traditionally religious ways or any other appropriate manner.

It is a legal requirement that all registered school age pupils 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".

AIMS:

Through our Period R programme, Assemblies and Acts of Reflection we aim to provide a caring and supportive environment for students to:

- Become increasingly aware of themselves as individuals and groups within the school 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
- Respond freely to religious and/or spiritual stimuli
- Acknowledge diversity and affirm each person's life stance, whether it be religious or not
- Give thanks
- Explore right and wrong
- Experience a calm atmosphere in which they can reflect on their feelings
- Make personal decisions regarding global issues
- Share and experience similarities and differences

PRACTICE:

At Woodlands we hold assemblies which seek to develop empathy and understanding on a wide range of spiritual, moral, social and cultural issues as well as the school and British Values.

There is an assembly each week for every pupil in the school. The Act of Reflection is referred to in this assembly. As well as this, Period R includes an Act of Reflection every week. Students are given silent time to reflect on whatever the topic is within that Act of Reflection once within this week. Tutors should then refer back to this Act of Reflection throughout the week. The Act of Reflection is presented on the tutor time PowerPoint slides.

Parents may, for reasons of conscience or religion, withdraw their children from such learning or from acts of worship. In this case, parents are asked to write to the Headteacher giving details of their wishes.