



# Collective Worship Policy

Status: Approved Active Date: September 2021 Review Date: Autumn 2023

Governor Leadership: Intent & Impact committee

Executive Leadership: Headteacher

Key Manager: S Dewsbury

Consultation group: teachers, parents, pupils

What the pupils need to know:

- We will show respect to others no matter what their faith is.
- We will learn from the teaching of God.
- We will learn how self-reflection helps us to learn.

What every other member of staff needs to know:

- We will always show respect to all faiths and forms of belief.
- Any promotion of radicalization will be reported to the Safeguarding team.
- We will promote the core values of tolerance and diversity.

What every adult (including parents) needs to know:

- Cromwell High School will
  - always show respect to all faiths and forms of belief.
  - not allow the promotion of radicalisation of any kind.
  - promote the core values of tolerance and diversity.

# Cromwell High School.

Learning today for a better tomorrow



## COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

### Introduction

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All maintained schools should provide for the collective worship and Religious Education of their pupils. All maintained schools must also provide daily collective worship for all registered pupils (apart from those withdrawn by their parents – see below). This can be provided as part of a daily assembly or as a discrete provision.

Cromwell includes all pupils in its act of collective worship (unless parents withdraw their child). Teachers will not be required to lead or attend collective worship but will be encouraged to volunteer to participate and contribute to the school in this way.

### Statutory Duty of the School

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The Headteacher is responsible for arranging the daily collective worship after consultation with the governing body. Daily collective worship must be wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character. The precise nature will depend on the family background, ages and abilities of the pupils. If it becomes inappropriate for some or all of the pupils to take part in an act of Christian worship, the Headteacher will apply to the local Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE) for a determination to have this requirement lifted.

We ensure that the collective worship sessions over the school year deliver at least a 51% Christian emphasis, which is acceptable under the statutory guidance allowing consideration and celebration of other religions and traditions in minority portion of the year. In the majority cases the content and ideas under consideration will be relevant to all major religions – including Christianity – with themes such as ‘honesty’, ‘kindness’ etc.

## INTENT

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In line with the school intent of pupils learning:

**to be confident, caring, safe, citizens; we will teach our students to be;**

- Able to keep themselves and others safe by understanding and managing the risks of modern society including on-line and especially the dangers of grooming for criminal, sexual or extreme political motives.
- Able to keep themselves healthy
- Kind, caring, aware of the needs of others and aware of, able and motivated to follow the laws and British Values of our society especially understanding the moral basis that all humans are of equal intrinsic value regardless of disability, age, gender, race, sexual orientation or identity. To take increasing responsibility for themselves and the effect that they have on others.
- Realise their own identity- in relation to cultural and spiritual awareness- in which they can feel comfortable, confident and able to continue to develop, thrive and be happy. To have the courage to be true to their 'best selves'. To learn to be true and kind to themselves through being true and kind to others.

Along with learning:

- **about the world; we believe in the entitlement of all our students to a broad, balanced and relevant education including appropriate access to 'cultural capital' that will promote shared understanding with others in society. To 'connect' with the world in which they live and learn about the facts, processes, principles, interests and wonders of-**
  - The natural world and environment and how to care for it
  - Human society, technology and its artistic and spiritual responses
  - Their own options and choices as they grow and develop towards adulthood

More specifically the aim of collective worship at Cromwell is to provide the opportunity for pupils to:

- Worship God
- Reflect on values that are of a broadly Christian nature and on their own beliefs
- Develop a community spirit, a common ethos and shared values
- Consider spiritual and moral issues
- Respond to the worship offered
- To promote community and unity
- To reflect on the British Values of tolerance, fairness and unity.
- To show respect to the faiths of all cultures and value the need for spiritual development
- To make it clear that any form of hate is not tolerated in our school

## IMPLEMENTATION

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Collective worship will:

- Be accessible to the whole community, staff and pupils
- Involve a variety of elements at different times
- Involve the pupils
- Will be presented in an ASC friendly way.

Collective worship will usually be delivered as part of an assembly that has focused on a key point of spiritual and philosophical (in the broadest sense) relevance.

Whole school assemblies are held every day a week at Cromwell during the pastoral session at the end of the school day for each department. All assemblies and acts of collective worship are held on a whole school basis and take place virtually in each classroom during Covid precautions. The assembly and collective worship provision are timetabled as follows:

**Monday:** Monday Manners – This focus on British values and children's acts of kindness and high social standards are celebrated.

**Tuesday:** Class lead assemblies – The focuses include achievements within each cohort and different areas of learning that have covered.

**Wednesday:** Music assemblies – The focus is music from around the world and it celebrates the rich cultures that the children have been learning about.

**Thursday:** Teachers deliver assemblies on a rota basis. Collective worship is included within the assembly.

**Friday:** Celebration of success assembly. All pupils are in houses, and Friday is a house assembly. Pupils are awarded merits/certificates/stars for good work over the week. Any other significant events of the week are also noted. Collective worship is included within the assembly. (At the end of each assembly, a short period of collective worship is observed by all.)

### **Special assemblies:**

- External contributors: Throughout the year, we will solicit video messages from suitable upstanding members of the wider community and a host of other visitors to include in the assembly cycle.
- Important Faith/Cultural Celebrations: Key festivals are celebrated with the children including Easter, Christmas, Eid al Fitr, Eid, Eid al-Adha, Diwali, Jewish New Year, Passover, Hanukkah, Harvest Festival, Remembrance Day, Bonfire Night, Mothers' Day, Chinese New Year
- Important news events: Especially during difficult times such as a public sense of loss (eg a natural disaster or major accident school will seek to support pupils in their awareness, empathy and ability to deal with significant public events
- National/International events: important national news will be referred to in assemblies as appropriate; eg- national or international events such as a General Election, the

Olympics.

### The Right to Withdrawal

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Parents have a right to withdraw their children from Religious Education and collective worship. If a parent asks for their child to be wholly or partly excused from attending any RE or collective worship at the school. School must comply unless the request is withdrawn. We will arrange for alternative supervision and, if resources allow and it can be agreed with parents, provide an alternative reflective opportunity.

Parents do not need to explain their reasons for seeking withdrawal. However, the head teacher will offer to clarify the reason for withdrawal with the parents in order to seek to optimise pupil access to the curriculum within parental wishes- e.g.:

- Specify the religious issues which the parent objects to their child being taught in order to allow access to other areas
- Specify if a parent would require any advanced notice of an issue in the future to prepare their child

The Headteacher will also outline the practical implications of withdrawal.

### Monitoring, Evaluation and Review

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The implementation of this policy will be monitored by the lead manager and reported to governors through the Intent and Impact Committee who will also review the policy biennially through its Intent and Impact Committee and assess its implementation and effectiveness.

Policy reviewed and approved by governors in September 2020