

Principles of collective worship

At Ark Alexandra we are committed to creating opportunities for students to engage in collective worship in various forms, nurturing curiosity about the teachings of Jesus Christ without compulsion. Throughout the school week staff and students gather together to participate in collective worship encompassing storytelling and moments of reflection. We aim to build an empathetic understanding of how and why Christians and others worship and the various liturgies and traditions of Christian worship.

Purpose of Collective Worship:

- Providing students and staff with opportunities and space to reflect.
- Asking questions about values and how to live a good life from a Christian perspective.
- Offering a Christian message of hope, redemption and salvation to all staff and students.
- Asking big questions and participating in discussions.
- Reinforcing the values of faith, excellence and kindness in a Christian community.
- Cultivating a sense of joy, mystery and wonder.

Forms of Collective Worship:

- Tutor groups discuss a Bible quotation, ask a big question and participate in silent reflection together every week.
- Assemblies reinforce and explore the message of the weekly Bible Quotation and theme.
- Assemblies are designed to enhance the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of all students.
- All students join together to recite the Lord's Prayer in every assembly.
- Local ministers visit the school to deliver Collective Worship Assemblies for every year group in the school each half term.
- Local ministers visit each campus once every half term to administer Eucharist to students who choose to receive it or express curiosity and wish to join the worship.
- Staff share a moment of prayer and reflection at the start of every CPD session.
- Annual Carol service and Commemoration service at All Saints Church.

Leaders:

- Plan and promote Collective Worship as integral to our school community.
- Lead assemblies, creating opportunities for students to enjoy stories with a Christian message.
- Engage in collective worship, its moments of stillness and celebration, with commitment and respect.
- Engage in conversations with students with regards their faith journey with a listening ear, seeking out opportunities to enhance their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.
- Are aware of and sensitive to the range of cultural and religious backgrounds of staff and students.

Teachers:

- Lead reflections and big question debates in Tutor group.
- Facilitate opportunities to respond to the worship offered.
- Enable students to make use of silence in opportunities for reflection, meditation, stillness and prayer.
- Engage in collective worship, its moments of stillness and celebration, with commitment and respect.
- Engage in conversations with students with regards their faith journey with a listening ear, seeking out opportunities to enhance their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.
- Are aware of and sensitive to the range of cultural and religious backgrounds of staff and students.

Students:

- Engage in collective worship, its moments of stillness and celebration, with commitment and respect.
- Ask questions about the Christian faith and its relevance in the world.
- Think hard and ask big questions in a Christian context.
- Are mindful of the range of cultural and religious backgrounds of staff and students.
- Seek to understand the meaning of the teachings of Jesus Christ and their relevance in our world. the range of cultural and religious backgrounds of staff and students.
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