

Diss High School

Collective Worship Policy

It is the statutory duty of all schools to provide a daily act of collective worship for registered students. Diss High School works towards this requirement set out in the 1996 Education Act. In line with the School Standards and Framework Act 1998, the Headteacher is responsible for arranging daily collective worship after consultation with the governing body. Lack of accommodation means the daily requirement cannot be met.

Collective worship will be addressed mainly through assembly time and will be based on a thematic approach which will mainly be of a broadly Christian character. (The Christian character will not reflect any particular Christian denomination.)

Students: Diss High School will respect the rights of all parents who wish to withdraw their child from collective worship.

Teachers: Diss High School respects the entitlement of all its staff and will recognise that they cannot be expected to lead collective worship.

Aims:

At Diss High School we believe that collective worship should:

- Provide the opportunity for students to participate in worship
- Give expression to, reaffirm and practise the values of the school community
- Be acceptable to the whole community, staff and students
- Provide an experience that provides the social, moral, spiritual and cultural development of students
- Be of a broadly Christian nature (non-denominational)
- Include multi-cultural topics to help celebrate and understand the diversity of our society
- Celebrate and give thanks for achievements within the school, local and international community and occasions of significance, including festivals
- Encourage a respect for self and engender a concern for the needs of others
- Allow reflection and response to the fundamental questions of life and those things that are of eternal concern and value to human beings

Implementation of Collective Worship Policy

- The programme for assemblies will be established in line with resources available
- Delivery will be, in the main, to year groups
- The Senior Leadership Team, along with Heads of Year, will deliver the majority of assemblies, but all staff will be invited and volunteers used to lead. Outside agencies will also be invited to lead assemblies.
- A programme of assembly themes will be established at the beginning of the academic year and a rota of staff will be arranged. (Themes may be changed due to newsworthy events).
- Assemblies will take place during the tutor period (8.50am-9.10am) but special assemblies may be held at other times.
- Tutors are required to escort their tutees to their assembly and stay with them throughout. (Any teacher wishing to be exempt from assemblies should approach the Headteacher).
- Students are always welcome to help with the delivery of assemblies and are encouraged to do so. Any member of staff leading an assembly may involve students in such activities as Drama, Dance, Music, Poetry and Reading.

Planning, Recording and Review

- Collective worship will be treated as any other part of school life.
- Students will also be asked to share their experiences and thoughts about assemblies delivered through Tutor Groups, Year Council meetings and the School Council meetings.

Collective Worship Policy – Reviewed Annually