



Collective Worship Policy

***Our Ambition: To be the highest performing MAT in the country
Our Mission: To improve the communities we serve for the better***

Written by	The Principals' Review Committee
Date for Review	January 2020
Approving Body	Principals
Signed	

Vision:

*Challenging educational orthodoxies so that every child makes good progress in core subjects;
all teachers are committed to personal improvement and fulfil their responsibilities;
all children receive a broad and balanced curriculum;
all academies strive to be outstanding.*

The FORGE Trust Collective Worship Policy

Aims

Across the FORGE trust, we aim to maintain a caring, supportive and disciplined learning environment where children benefit from the best possible education. All staff are committed to this aim. We would like to know if you think we are not meeting your expectations, so that we have an opportunity to respond. We would also like to know your opinion on the things we do well.

Racial Equality & Equal Opportunities

All children have equal access and inclusive rights to the curriculum regardless of their age, gender, race, religion, belief, disability or ability. We plan work that is differentiated for the performance of all groups and individuals. The FORGE Trust is committed to creating a positive climate that will enable everyone to work free from racial intimidation and harassment and to achieve their full potential. Policies are available on each of these that expand on this further.

All staff have equal access and inclusive rights to their work regardless of their age, gender, sexual orientation, race, religion, belief, disability or ability. The FORGE Trust is committed to creating a positive climate that will enable everyone to work free from racial intimidation and harassment and to achieve their full potential. Policies are available on each of these that expand on this further.

Introduction

The Collective Worship policy reflects the consensus of opinion of the trust and has been drawn up in consultation with the staff and pupils in each academy across the trust.

The implementation of the policy is the responsibility of all staff.

The FORGE Trust believes that in our daily collective worship we try to create an occasion, which produces a variety of responses, one of which is worship. By providing different levels of interest and involvement, all children will feel included, whatever their beliefs or background.

The Composition of Collective Worship

In planning collective acts of worship we must bear in mind the following activities: -

- Singing readings and storytelling, rituals, drama, music for listening, responses, audio-visual presentation, interviews, symbols, prayer, dance, visiting speakers and cooking.

Annual Planning

When planning the year the Principal within each academy and the R.E. subject leader will think carefully about the inclusion of the following:-

- **High days and holidays** such as - Advent, St Nicholas, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, Epiphany, Candlemas, Shrove Tuesday, Ash Wednesday and Lent, Mothering Sunday, Palm Sunday, Holy Week, Good Friday, Easter Day, Ascension Day, Pentecost, Harvest and Thanksgiving (see Appendix 1.)
- **Saint Days** such as - St Andrew, St David, St George, St Patrick, St Steven, St Thomas, St John, St Mathias, St Mark, St Philip and St James, St Barnabas, St Peter, St Matthew, St Michael and All Angels, St Luke, St Simon and St Jude, All Saints' Day (see Appendix 1.)
- **Feasting for Festivals** - Advent and Christmas, New Year, Twelfth Night, Mothering Sunday, Lent, Easter, Ascension Day, Whitsun and Pentecost, Harvest, Thanksgiving, All Saints and All Souls (see Appendix 1.)
- **World Faiths** – example of an annual planner of weekly RE assemblies taking into account National and World Events (see Appendix 2.)

Planning for the academic year will take place at the beginning of the new academic year and all staff will then be given a year plan of the proposed collective acts of worship.

Organisation

The Education Reform Act states that collective worship need no longer be at the start of the academy day, and worship may take place in 'school groups'.

The beginning of any academy day is always hectic and rushing pupils through registration and then into the hall for worship is devaluing the occasion and making the pupils unsettled. Therefore the time of worship will vary in each academy across the trust and will take place at the most appropriate time each day.

Collective worship will either be conducted whole school, as a key stage, e.g. during assemblies or by class teachers (appropriate time for reflection).

Involvement in Local Religious Groups

The FORGE Trust believes that the involvement of local religious groups is vital to the development of our pupils. Therefore, speakers from local religious groups are invited to speak to our pupils when we celebrate collective worship.

Involvement of Others

As a trust we actively encourage the involvement of outside speakers such as the local Police, lollipop man etc. who will be invited to take an active part in our collective worship on a set theme.

Involvement of Parents

Parents across the trust are invited to attend a range of special assemblies within each academy, e.g. performances, class assemblies and graduations.

Composition of Collective Worship

Across the trust, music may be played at the beginning and end of collect worship which, if possible, fits in with the theme, e.g. during assemblies.

Hymns - should be chosen where applicable to reflect the theme.

Prayers / Reflection – across the trust the children are introduced to a range of prayers and/or reflections. Children will be invited to close their eyes and put their hands together if they wish to, however it is not compulsory.

Provider - the provider will usually be a member of staff within that academy but may also be the local vicar, or outside speaker.

Theme – themes will be decided by each academy within the trust and will be planned by the R.E. Leader in conjunction with the Leadership Team within each academy (see Appendix 2 for an example.)

Celebration Assembly

Each academy within the FORGE Trust will have a weekly assembly to celebrate achievements. These assemblies will take place at the most convenient time for each academy. The assembly is an occasion when the whole school meets to share together the successes and achievements of individual pupils either in or out of school. Incentives and reward systems will be unique to each academy.

Evaluation

All assemblies are planned and amended by staff within each academy across the trust. At the end of each academic year a review of the effectiveness of the Collective Worship Policy will take place at the Principals Review Committee in collaboration with the RE Leader for each academy across the trust.

Month	Festival / Event	Culture
January	Epiphany New Years Day Oshogatsu or Shogatsu Festival of St Basil the Great 10th Tevet Makar Sanranti Birthday of Guru Har Rai Chinese New Year	Christian Secular Shinto Christian Jewish Hindu Sikh Shinto
February	Septuagesima Sunday <i>Quinquagesima Sunday</i> Ash Wednesday Shrove Tuesday Accession of Queen Elizabeth 2 nd Valentines Day Rissun Nirvana Day Milad un Nabi (Shia)	Christian Christian Christian Christian Secular Christian Shinto Buddhist Muslim
March	Mothering Sunday St. David's Day Commonwealth Day St. Patricks Day Shrove Tuesday Ash Wednesday Holi	Christian Christian Secular Christian Christian Christian Hindu
April	Palm Sunday Good Friday Easter Day First Day of Passover – Pesach Low Sunday Birthday of Queen Elizabeth 2 nd St Georges Day Birthday of Guru Nanak	Christian Christian Christian Jewish Christian Secular Secular Sikh
May	Feast of weeks – Shavuot Yom Hashoah -Jewish Holocaust Memorial Day Wesak / Buddha Day	Jewish Jewish Buddhist
June	Trinity Sunday Corpus Christi Coronation Day Queens official birthday Fathers Day Shavout	Christian Christian Secular Secular Secular Jewish
July	First day of Ramadan St Swithin's Day Asala - Dharma Day	Islam Christian Buddhist

	Pioneer Day	Mormon
August	Tisha B'Av Lailat al Qadr Eid-UI-Fitr	Jewish Islam Islam
September	Jewish New Year – Rosh Hashanah Day of Atonement – Yom Kippur Ethiopian New Year Navaratri	Jewish Jewish Rastafari Hindu
October	Halloween Dussera Yom Kippur Sukkot Diwali Diwali	Secular Hindu Jewish Jewish Hindu Sikh
November	Remembrance Sunday St. Andrews Day Bonfire Night Islamic New Year Coronation of Emporer Haile Selassie 1 All Souls Day Eid-UI-Adha Al-Hijira Advent Sunday	Multi-faith Christian Secular Islam Rastarfarian Christian Islam Islam Christian
December	Christmas First Sunday in Advent Hannukah	Christian Christian Jewish

***Please note that events may fall on different dates each year. For an up-to-date and comprehensive list of celebrations and their significance please go to www.bbc.co.uk/religion/tools/calendar**

Example of Collective Worship Themes - Appendix 2

Autumn term 1 - **focus on Hinduism**

Week 1 and 2 - Introduction to Hinduism (founder, etc)

Week 3 - Special celebrations in Hinduism- Divali

Week 4 and 5 - Stories from Hinduism

Week 6 - Summary

Autumn term 2- **focus on Judaism**

Week 1 and 2- Introduction to Judaism (founder, etc)

Week 3- Special events (Shabbat, Hannukah, etc)

Week 4- food and traditions

Week 5- Stories from Judaism

Week 6 Summary

Spring term 1- **focus on Buddhism**

Week 1 and 2- Introduction to Buddhism (founder, etc)

Week 3- Special celebrations in Buddhism

Week 4- food and traditions

Week 5- Stories from Buddhism

Week 6- Summary

Spring term 2- **focus on Christianity**

Week 1 and 2- Introduction to Christianity

Week 3- Important people

Week 4- special celebrations

Week 5- stories from Christianity

Week 6- Summary

Summer term 1- **focus on Sikhism**

Week 1 and 2- Introduction to Sikhism

Week 3- Important people

Week 4- special celebrations

Week 5- stories from Sikhism

Week 6- Summary

Summer term 2- **focus on Islam**

Week 1 and 2- Introduction to Islam

Week 3- Important people

Week 4- Special celebrations

Week 5- Stories from Islam

Week 6- Summary