



# Collective worship policy

## PURPOSE

We use a number of different types of assessments for different internal purposes. The document below is an explanation of each of these assessments, our target setting and approach to grading.

Date of last review:	July 2020	Author:	Peter Haylock
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Type of policy:	<input type="checkbox"/> Network-wide <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tailored by school	Approval:	LGB 09/19
School:	Ark BDA	Key Contact Name:	Peter Haylock

## POSITIONING WITHIN ARK OPERATIONAL MODEL

Component	Element
<input type="checkbox"/> Strategic Leadership & Planning <input type="checkbox"/> Monitoring, Reporting & Data <input type="checkbox"/> Governance & Accountabilities <input type="checkbox"/> Teaching & Learning <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Curriculum & Assessment <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Culture, Ethos & Wellbeing <input type="checkbox"/> Pathways & Enrichment <input type="checkbox"/> Parents & Community <input type="checkbox"/> Finance, IT & Estates <input type="checkbox"/> Our People	Culture and ethos

## 1. Rationale

The School Collective Worship Policy reflects and reinforces the Academy's aims and ethos. At Ark Burlington Danes Academy, we believe that *everyone* deserves to be accepted, included and empowered to live a life that is purposeful and fulfilling. Through learning to our fullest potential and living a life filled with kindness and thankfulness, we can be the ones to make the world a better place. It will demonstrate the partnership between the conduct and content of school worship and the ethos of the whole school based on Christian values of courage, resilience, faith, leadership, love, care for the community and commitment.

At Ark Burlington Danes Academy we consider Collective worship to be a significant educational activity that both reflects and explores the schools distinctive Christian character and contributes to the academic achievement, personal development and wellbeing of all learners. Therefore Collective Worship at Ark Burlington Danes Academy is planned to:

- Offers the opportunity, without compulsion, to all pupils and adults to grow spiritually through experiences of prayer, stillness, worship and reflection
- Enables all pupils and adults to appreciate that Christians worship in different ways, for example using music, silence, story, prayer, reflection, the varied liturgical and other traditions of Anglican/Methodist worship, festivals and, where appropriate, the Eucharist.
- Helps pupils and adults to appreciate the relevance of faith in today's world, to encounter the teachings of Jesus and the Bible and to develop their understanding of the Christian belief in the Trinitarian nature of God and its language.
- Enables pupils as well as adults to engage in the planning, leading and evaluation of collective worship in ways that lead to improving practice. Leaders of worship, including clergy, have access to regular training.
- Aims to encourage local church community partnerships to support the school effectively in developing its provision for collective worship.

Collective worship should be an experience that does not offend the integrity of the non-religious or those of different faith. The positive educational outcomes of Collective Worship at Ark Burlington Danes Academy include opportunities for:

- the whole community to celebrate
- sharing and experiencing differences
- developing a culture of learning
- building a sense of group identity
- encouraging a sense of personal and social responsibility
- learning how to behave in a large social group
- exploring feelings and emotions
- learning how to perform in front of an audience
- learning how to respond to a performance
- making visible the school's leadership
- developing inner awareness

## 2. Legal Requirements

The law requires the Principal and Governing Body of every school to provide a daily act of

Collective Worship which is in line with the Academy Trust Deed and foundation.

Schools are obliged to give their reasons if they feel they are not able to comply with this part of the law. The School meets this requirement and is explained to all involved in the planning and delivery of acts of worship.

Withdrawal from Collective Worship Parents have the right to withdraw their children from acts of worship. It is intended that consultation will take place before formal requests are made to withdraw from acts of worship. In the case of parents or teachers contact needs to be made with the Principal.

### 3. Planning a Collective Worship programme

Specific time is set aside for this activity and we recognise the importance of marking out the act of Collective Worship from other assembly activities. We attempt to mark out this special time by asking children to reflect quietly. Each person leading worship is expected to plan his or her act of worship with the same degree of thoroughness as any other aspect of their teaching. We encourage a 4 stage structure of planning including 'Gathering' 'engaging' 'responding' 'sending'. There should also be space for evaluation. The planning of worship is developed as part of the academy development plan and school organisation, which is led by the Principal and SLT. This is reviewed half termly and these meetings are an opportunity to review and evaluate the last terms Acts of Collective Worship and to adapt themes for the next term.

The views of pupils about collective worship are sought through focus groups and the through termly school questionnaires. Pupils are encouraged to be involved in the planning leading and monitoring of Collective worship. Steve Divall, one of the schools governors has a role monitoring Collective worship through discussion with students at focus groups. The programme of acts of Collective Worship is coordinated by the Assistant principal for Christian ethos.

### 4. Our pattern of Collective Worship

Each lesson include a reflection at the start of every lesson, including it on the 'Do Now': This follows the following structure: "We think of the children around the world without access to education and are grateful for the opportunity to learn". This is included as part of our start of lesson routines. Each year group has a central time of collective worship held twice a week as a whole year group. These are taken by members of the Senior Leadership team and the Head of Year. Staff and pupils may contribute music, drama and dance. This worship will normally provide opportunities for spiritual development. In addition each tutor group has a tutor time reflection daily. The acts of worship generally follow themes that are aligned to the schools values but include a recognition of the church's year and makes space for other national events. Our programme aims to embed a strand of Christian Ethos in our assemblies and tutor time programme. Each year group should examine three stories of Christ in which he reached out and championed those who were weakest. These should be related to us following the same example and championing causes in the world today. The three causes and three stories can be the same for each year group, although they will need to be differentiated for the differing levels of maturity.

In general the Principal is consulted before a visiting speaker is confirmed. Visitors should not speak about raising money for any particular cause(s) without the prior permission of the Principal.

The plan for collective worship through whole year group and tutor group events is mapped on our collective worship planning document.