



## Assemblies Policy

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2011-12

*This policy applies to Early Years Foundation Stage, Junior School and Senior School.*

### **Introduction**

Hollygirt School aims to deliver assemblies which are broadly Christian in character.

The provision of assemblies at present (2011-2012) is as follows:

### **Junior School**

Tuesday      Assembly for Whole Junior School  
Nursery/Reception/Year 1 and 2: Room 1  
Years 3 and 4: Library  
Years 5 and 6: 9 Villa Road

Wednesday    Assembly for Whole Junior School  
Taken by Junior Staff

Friday        Assembly for Whole Junior School  
Golden Book – 9 Villa Road

### **Senior School**

Monday        Form Time

Tuesday       Form Time

Wednesday    House Assembly

Thursday       Assembly for Years 7, 8 and 9  
Years 10 and 11 in form period

Friday         Assembly for Years 10 and 11  
Years 7, 8 and 9 in form period

Assemblies are planned on a termly basis for the Junior and Senior School assemblies. The school has its own hymn book for use in collective worship.

### **Aims and Objectives**

The provision of acts of daily collective worship is part of the fulfilment of the school's aims.

- Assemblies are part of the wider curriculum and therefore aim to provide part of the breadth and balance in responding to the needs and interests of pupils.

- Assemblies are part of the school's aim to provide opportunities to meet the intellectual, aesthetic, creative, social and particularly emotional and spiritual needs of each pupil. Assemblies also endeavour to foster a group loyalty by sharing interests and experiences.
- Assemblies also have a part to play in the fostering of good standards of self-discipline, courtesy, consideration for others and the individual ability to distinguish between right and wrong.
- Assemblies give pupils and staff an opportunity to hear about extra-curricular activities and honour pupils for their achievements.

The objectives of acts of collective worship might include:

- to explore the spiritual dimension;
- to enhance and help deliver the aims of the school;
- to give memorable and enjoyable experiences, especially at festival times;
- to encourage a sensitive understanding of a variety of beliefs and practices;
- to provide times of peace for reflection and for prayer;
- to respond to the aesthetic and support the search for meaning, and;
- to encourage a sense of responsibility and community including thinking about others and empathising with them to affirm values and commitment.

(Many of the above are summarised from the Norfolk S.A.C.R.E. document found in *Collective Worship* by J King.)

### **Withdrawal of Pupils from Assemblies**

Parents may choose to have their child withdrawn from collective worship and this request should be put in writing to the Headmistress.

In the Senior School, pupils withdrawn from the Harvest Festival should remain in school. In the case of the Carol Service they should attend the rehearsal with the school but would not attend in the evening. Pupils would be supervised during these times and any request for pupils not to attend should be put in writing to the Headmistress.

In the Junior School, pupils withdrawn from both the Harvest Festival and the Christmas Service should be collected by parents from the school by prior arrangement with the Head of Juniors.