

# Collective Worship Policy

Approved by RET Board

Approved on January 2016

SLT contact Headteacher

Revision due Every 2 years



## 1. Rationale

- a. The governors wish to ensure that Collective Worship, which is distinctively Christian, plays an important part in the life of the School and promotes the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of all students. The governors believe that Collective Worship should be distinctively Christian in character but needs to be organised on the assumption that there are students in the school of different faiths and those with no faith.

## 2. Strategic Framework

- a. This policy is adopted to ensure collective worship at King's is:
  - i. Consistent with our vision and Christian ethos, and our other policies (e.g. Curriculum, Equalities)
  - ii. meeting statutory requirements and paying due regard to legislation
  - iii. meeting (OfSTED and) Section 48 'Outstanding' criteria as follows: -

*Collective Worship at the school is engaging, inspiring and transformational - It informs behaviour, attitudes and relationships in all elements of school life - It develops the Christian vision, values and ethos of the school and contributes to the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of participants.*

## 3. Aims

Our collective worship programme is designed to:

- a. provide opportunities for the school community to worship God
- b. support our Gospel-inspired values and promote them throughout the school
- c. provide a daily invitation to prayer and regular opportunities to read and reflect on Bible verses
- d. allow students time to Consider 'big questions' about existence; train students to be comfortable with reflection, and silences, drawing on all the senses as they develop a sense of awe and wonder about the universe
- e. provide experience and understanding of the Christian calendar and maintaining the ethos of worship of The Church of England
- f. provide students with regular opportunities to participate in Communion services in school and in local churches
- g. make all members of our school community feel included and affirmed by worship

## 4. Organisation

- a. A lively, relevant and varied programme of collective worship will be organised centrally each year and will include include: an annual rota of key 'themes' for each school week; tutor-based daily worship sessions during term time with centrally prepare resouces; regular opportunities for participation in Communion services at school and in local churches.
- b. The annual programme is planned and evaluated as systematically as any other aspect of our provision
- c. A nominated staff member is responsible for programme planning (following guidelines provided by the head), with a named senior team member quality-assuring the planning
- d. External contributors are carefully selected, to ensure their input is compatible with our aims
- e. Our worship programme will give opportunities for reflection and personal growth for those of all faiths and none. Attempts to indoctrinate or proselytise will be avoided. The importance of collective worship will be made clear to any parent thinking of choosing this school as part of the induction process thereby

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negating as much as possible the chance of parents asking for their son/daughter to be withdrawn. However, if parents wish their son/daughter to opt out of Collective Worship an alternative provision of individual reflection will be provided with clearly defined outcomes and expectations to ensure spiritual development.

## 5. Monitoring and Evaluation.

- a. Annual programme quality-assured in advance, with half-termly line management of the Collective Worship Co-ordinator, informed by inputs from external stakeholders (below) and Student Voice
- b. Governors: regular reports on this element of our provision, supplemented by link governor visits
- c. External: RET monitoring, and stakeholder views canvassed, including parents and local clergy

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## Annex 1: Holy Communion Services Policy

### 1. Rationale

- a. The governors wish to ensure that students have regular opportunities to participate in Holy Communion Services as part of their Collective Worship programme in school.
- b. The governors wish to ensure that parents and carers are fully informed of the way in which these services will operate.

### 2. Aims

Holy Communion Services at King's are designed to:

- a. provide opportunities for the school community to worship God
- b. support our Gospel-inspired values and promote them throughout the school
- c. provide students with Christian faith with a regular opportunity for taking Communion as within their school community
- d. provide students without faith with an understanding of the Anglican Communion service and its importance to Christians
- e. provide experience and understanding of the Christian calendar and major Christian festivals

### 3. Organisation

- a. The programme of Holy Communion Services at King's will be organised annually by a named person, whose work will be overseen by a member of the Senior Leadership Team, under the direction of the Headteacher.
- b. The annual programme will provide regular opportunities for participation in Holy Communion Services in school and in local churches (at least three per annum for each student).
- c. Holy Communion services at King's will be based on the Anglican liturgy. Bread and wine will be used for Communion. The liturgy for Holy Communion Services can be made available to parents/carers on request.
- c. Students will be given three options for the Communion; they may take communion if they usually take it in their church or if they are in Year 8 and above and make a personal decision to take Communion at school; they may come up to the Minister/Priest for a blessing; or they may remain quietly in their chairs.
- d. Parental consent will not be taken in advance for students to take Communion.
- e. Students may be refused Communion at the discretion of those ministering the Communion.
- f. The importance of collective worship will be made clear to any parent thinking of choosing this school as part of the induction process thereby negating as much as possible the chance of parents asking for their son/daughter to be withdrawn from Holy Communion Services. However, if parents wish their son/daughter to opt out of Communion services they should inform the school and an alternative provision of individual reflection will be provided with clearly defined outcomes and expectations to ensure spiritual development.