

## Christopher Hatton Assembly Policy

Date policy agreed: October 2021

Review: October 2023

### Introduction

Christopher Hatton School has a determination from SACRE which lifts the requirement of Section 7(1) of the Education Reform Act 1988 that collective worship should be “wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character”. Assemblies are seen as an important part of the day in which the school can come together to share and develop our ethos

### Purpose

In line with The Education Act 1996 Section 13 (as amended) at Christopher Hatton we use assemblies to promote pupils’ spiritual, moral, social and cultural development. In doing this we take into account the diversity of backgrounds of our pupils with the aim of contributing to cohesion within our community and to the development of shared values. Our overarching aim is for children to be Informed, articulate and empowered – assemblies provide a key opportunity in which these attributes can be developed.

### Organisation

School assemblies, subject to the right of withdrawal, are intended to be appropriate for and inclusive of all pupils attending the school.

Assemblies take place in the upper hall each day for about 15 minutes

Day	Led by	Focus
Monday	Deputy Head	Festivals, SMSC development
Tuesday	Head teacher	Hattoneer Values, moral, cultural and community themes, school ethos
Wednesday	Key Stage	Social and emotional and spiritual aspects of learning and whole school issues based on RHE curriculum
Thursday	Class teachers or head teacher	Class sharing/celebration of learning assemblies – parents invited
Thursday	Oracy assembly	Developing spoken language skills and awareness of world events and moral dilemmas through discussion points
Friday	Music teacher	Cultural development

Main festivals from major faiths will be focussed on as they appear. Themes are planned in a half term cycles

All children are encouraged to take an active part in assemblies through sharing thoughts and experiences, celebrating successes and participating in a quiet moment of reflection together. Within assemblies we show respect for the values and aspirations that religious traditions have in common and to the values and aspirations of those without a religious faith commitment. Whilst we recognise that assemblies may contribute to religious education, this is taught separately as part of the curriculum.

### Aims

We see assemblies as a means to:

- Share and strengthen our school Hattoneer ethos.
- Explore and develop British values of tolerance, democracy, the rule of law, liberty and respect to develop good citizenship.
- Consider moral and ethical issues in a school and wider world context.
- Explore some of life's fundamental experiences, such as a sense of fascination, wonder and mystery.
- Widen pupils emotional responses and to deepen their ability to be sensitive.
- Be inspired the experiences and deeds of others.
- Reflect, respond and express views.
- Come together as a community and to be reminded of the values, rules and responsibilities of belonging to our community
- Share times of celebration and joy, of sadness and loss
- Developing respect for others valuing diversity and promoting equality
- Developing pupils' awareness and understanding of important religious festivals
- Developing pupils' knowledge and skills that contribute to their ability to be healthy, safe, be positive and to prepare for their futures
- Building and understanding that life involves choices: right and wrong, just and unjust
- Promoting positive attitudes of resilience, determination, resourcefulness and ambition

## **Appendix 1**

### **Assembly themes may include**

#### **Understanding of different cultures and beliefs**

Comparative religions – sharing approaches to festivals and looking for connections. The major festivals and key events of all major religions are included.

Festivals (Diwali, Hanukah, Advent, Eid, Easter, Holi, Birthday of Gur Nanak, Christmas, Passover)

#### **Good citizenship**

- Being a positive member of our community – taking responsibility for your own actions
- How to stay safe – responsible behaviour in and out of school

Our Hattoneer Ethos – How can I be the best version of me?

Hattoneers work together to create a safer, happier and fair world for everyone.

We

Understand our rights and respect the rights of others

Value and respect everyone equally

Behave with consideration and kindness

Care for our environment and our planet

Embrace challenges and put in our best effort

Are informed, articulate and empowered.

#### **Being inspired by the greatness of others**

- Men and women who have changed the world
- How can we play our part in changing the world for the better?