



Primrose Hill Primary School

Assembly policy

(Collective worship)

What is the purpose of this policy?

This policy describes the aims, content and organisation of assemblies at Primrose Hill School.

What does collective worship mean at Primrose Hill and what are the connections between collective worship and religious education (RE)?

At Primrose Hill we define collective worship as a time when members of the school community come together to collectively give value to a variety of spiritual, moral social and cultural ideas. Our aim is to encourage all our children to recognize and celebrate the diversity in our community, and also to see the many commonalities in different religious beliefs and practices and what it is to be human.

Opportunities for worship come about through moments of quiet reflection and contemplation. During these moments, children are given the opportunity to silently give thanks or praise. In this way children of any faith, and those with no faith, can take the opportunity to worship, or not, as the case may be.

The aims of assemblies:

1. To promote the overall aims and values of the school as agreed by governors. These aims are displayed prominently around the school and inform all our work.
2. To promote pupils' sense of being a member of the community of Primrose Hill School.
3. To promote spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.

Assemblies should:-

- provide pupils with the knowledge and insight into values and beliefs enabling them to reflect on their experiences in a way that develops their spiritual awareness and self-knowledge, (spiritual)
 - teach the principles which distinguish right from wrong, (moral)
 - encourage pupils to relate positively to others, take responsibility, participate fully in the community and develop an understanding of citizenship, (social)
 - teach pupils to appreciate their own cultural traditions and the diversity and richness of other cultures. (cultural)
4. To develop pupils' personal qualities including their self-esteem, their sense of identity, their appreciation of awe and wonder, their openness and tolerance, and their ability to reflect on these qualities and other aspects of life's fundamental experiences.
 5. To promote the school's commitment to equality of opportunity by celebrating, giving value to and learning about different ethnic and faith groups, in particular those represented within the school community.
 6. To promote pupils' understanding of the cycle of the year through the exploration of the annual cycle of nature and the annual cycle of religious and non-religious celebrations.
 7. To promote pupils' moral development by exploring values and qualities that can be supported by both members of faith communities and by those who are not members of a faith community.

How are assemblies organised at Primrose Hill?

Children in all classes (except the nursery) take part in an act of collective worship/reflection each day. Primrose Hill is a large school so we are able to arrange two whole school assemblies each week. There are separate assemblies for key phases.

This is the weekly pattern of assemblies:

Monday	10.15 Whole School assembly with a spiritual / thoughtful / world relevance focus 9.15 EYFS singing assembly with parents
Tuesday	3.00 – Key Stage 1 PHSCE (SEAL) assembly 12.10: Key Stage 2 music assembly
Wednesday	Key Stage 1 singing assembly 3pm Years 5 & 6: Circle time Years 3 & 4 Assembly PHSCE (SEAL) themes
Thursday	Year 3 & 4 Circle Time Year 5 & 6 assembly
Friday	10.15 Whole School celebration assembly with an achievement focus

Whole School SEAL assemblies and Achievement assemblies will always be at 10.15am, Phase/Class Assemblies at 3pm and Music Assemblies before morning or lunch break; all timetabled in advance each term by the Phase Leaders.

How are the themes of the week selected?

Members of the school's senior management team select the themes of the term and seek to choose a balance of themes that will promote the different aims of this policy. Our overarching aim is to give children experience of PSMSC which will often have a social, moral, spiritual focus depending on what is happening in the world or where we feel children need some additional input. Sometimes a theme has a narrow focus such as reinforcing the school rules or developing healthy eating. Other themes are more open and we consider it a strength of our assemblies that individual members of staff are original and creative in how they interpret the themes.

How are assemblies and collective worship monitored?

The Head Teacher and leadership team observe assemblies.

Do children have to attend assemblies?

We encourage all children to attend assemblies, and this has never been an issue. If parents and carers wish to withdraw their child, they can after discussion with the Head Teacher.

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