



Broadway Academy Trust Policies

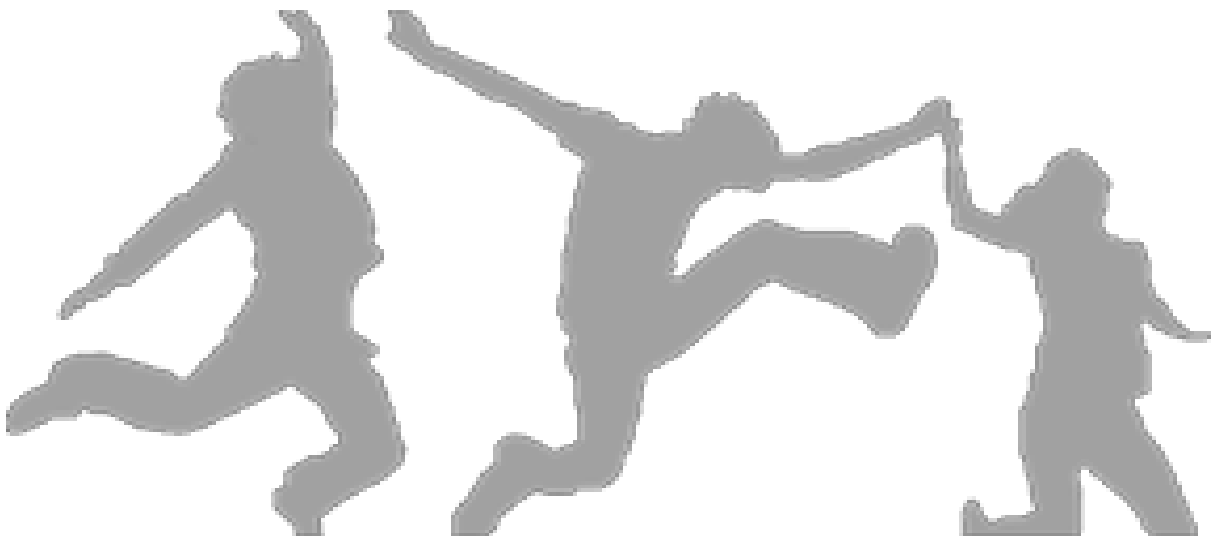
Our Children. Our Community. Believe it can be done!

Collective Worship Policy

Approved by: Full Governing Board

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Philippians 4:8

Whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things.

1. Introduction

‘Collective worship in schools should aim to provide the opportunity for pupils to worship God, to consider spiritual, and moral issues and to explore their own beliefs; to encourage participation and response, whether through active involvement in the presentation of worship offered; and to develop community spirit, to promote a common ethos and shared values, and to reinforce positive attitudes.’

(RELIGIOUS EDUCATION and COLLECTIVE WORSHIP, 1\94 DFE)

Since becoming an academy we no longer need to apply for a determination.

Under section 70 of the [Schools Standards and Framework Act 1998](#) each pupil attending a community, foundation or voluntary school in England is required to take part in an act of collective worship each school day.

Schedule 20, paragraph 3(2) of the same act requires schools without a religious character to provide collective worship that is “wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character”.

However, schools (or groups of pupils within schools) may be exempted from this requirement. Any exemption is considered by the standing advisory council on religious education for that local authority. This body advises local authorities and schools on the provision of religious education in a local authority area.

2. The Nature and Character of the School (at April 2024)

The table below shows the religious make-up of the whole school and individual year groups in the Academy.

	All years		Year 7		Year 8		Year 9		Year 10		Year 11		Year 12		Year 13	
Religion	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Muslim	973	77.59%	151	72.25%	152	72.04%	167	78.77%	185	88.10%	178	82.79%	99	72.26%	41	68.33%
No Response	174	13.88%	38	18.18%	35	16.59%	20	9.43%	12	5.71%	24	11.16%	30	21.90%	15	25.00%
Christian	78	6.22%	15	7.18%	17	8.06%	21	9.91%	8	3.81%	10	4.65%	4	2.92%	3	5.00%
Roman Catholic	9	0.72%	2	0.96%	1	0.47%	2	0.94%	2	0.95%	1	0.47%	1	0.73%	0	0.00%
No Religion	5	0.40%	1	0.48%	1	0.47%	1	0.47%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	2	1.46%	0	0.00%
Hindu	4	0.32%	0	0.00%	1	0.47%	0	0.00%	1	0.48%	2	0.93%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%
Sikh	4	0.32%	0	0.00%	2	0.95%	1	0.47%	1	0.48%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%
Other Religion	3	0.24%	1	0.48%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	1	0.48%	0	0.00%	1	0.73%	0	0.00%
BAPTIST	1	0.08%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	1	1.67%
Buddhist	2	0.16%	1	0.48%	1	0.47%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%
United Reform Church	1	0.08%	0	0.00%	1	0.47%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%
	1254	-	209	-	211	-	212	-	210	-	215	-	137	-	60	

As our Academy hall is too small to gather the whole school together, we divide the school into year groups who gather for an assembly once a week and once each half term for a

Key Stage special assembly. These assemblies are taken by the Student Support Managers, members of the Leadership team and visiting speakers from a variety of religious, social and cultural organisations.

Members of staff and older pupils lead Friday prayers for Muslim pupils.

Spiritual and Moral awareness at Broadway Academy is promoted by the Headteacher's 'Thought for the Day' over the tannoy system and the 'V4C' programme which is part of the form tutor's weekly programme of activities during registration time. This is prepared by a senior staff member who produces not only the Core Value, but also a teacher's guide and resources to aid discussion and reflection.

3. What is Collective Worship

Collective worship occurs where groups of pupils of different beliefs and attitudes assemble as a body, [be that as a school, year group, or form] to share common values and experiences. It is not to be equated with corporate worship where participants share the same faith.

4. The Role of Collective Worship

Whilst there are no legal requirements for schools to hold 'assemblies', the law states clearly that all pupils [exceptions – Right of Withdrawal] are required to participate in a daily act of collective worship. This applies to academies with and without a religious designation.

The legal requirements allow for a certain degree of flexibility with regard to the nature of 'worship' and this document defines Broadway Academy's interpretation of those requirements.

Collective worship occupies an important place in the life of Broadway Academy. It provides an opportunity for members of the Academy community to pause for activity, to gather together, to remind themselves of and reflect upon the beliefs and values which bind the Academy together.

5. Collective Worship at Broadway Academy Trust

We have chosen to interpret the concept of 'worship' as providing an invaluable opportunity for the Academy community to focus on and reaffirm those values that are considered to be of supreme worth and importance.

Values that are regularly re visited as themes for collective worship include British Values: Respect for the Rule of Law, Liberty, Democracy, Mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths/beliefs and the Broadway Core Values: Responsibility, Inclusivity, Aspiration, Generosity, Respect, Integrity, Optimism and Appreciation.

We believe that our times of collective worship can play an important role in deepening the spiritual awareness of our pupils. Collective Worship, at its best, provides pupils with an opportunity to reflect upon the value, purpose and meaning of things. Pupils are led into an experience of quietness to counterbalance the busy activity which generally marks the rest of the school day. Such quiet times will often lend themselves to the nurturing of a sense of awe and wonder, especially with regard to the natural world.

Collective worship at Broadway Academy gives pupils the opportunity to hear stories and words from religious and other literature that introduce our students to religious beliefs and values.

Through collective worship, we encourage pupils to recognise the widely held belief in the existence of a deity. We will consider the values that are shared by different faiths and reflecting our Academy population we will sometimes consider the writings and leaders of other faiths.

In addition to the above the Academy will, on occasion, plan special times of collective worship to acknowledge the significance of key religious festivals from the main religions represented in the school. In line with legislation that collective worship should be 'wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character', we place particular emphasis on Christian festivals of Easter and Christmas. Whatever festival we deal with, Christian or otherwise, our concern is to explore the reason for celebration and the commonalities between different faith groups. Pupils are not themselves required to 'celebrate' religious beliefs which they nor their family do not adhere to.

At Broadway we believe that collective worship makes a vital contribution to the development of pupils in the following areas:

1. Assemblies and Values 4 Children contribute to the moral development of pupils by providing them with an opportunity to:
 - Reflect on matters concerning right and wrong
 - Hear about incidents / situations in which, and people in whom, goodness and right are exemplified
 - Learn about religious and other teachings concerning right and wrong.
2. Assemblies and V4C contribute to the social development of pupils by providing them with an opportunity to:
 - Gather with others for a common purpose
 - Share times of joy and sadness with others
 - Learn how to behave appropriately within a specific social setting
 - Increase self confidence in public speaking/dramatic performance
3. Assemblies and V4C contribute to the cultural development of pupils by providing them with an opportunity to:
 - Hear and respond to music from a range of times, places and cultures
 - Reflect upon ideas concerning the concept of beauty
 - Appreciate the range of talents and gifts found within the school community and beyond.
4. Assemblies and V4C contribute to the intellectual development of pupils by providing them with an opportunity to:
 - Learn and engage with their minds
 - Have ideas concerning values confirmed or challenged
 - Reflect on the importance of learning in the context of the school community
 - Consider the power of words and ideas.

6. Principles and Practices

- Good timing is essential. The entire assembly [unless it is a special event or a KS assembly] should not exceed 20 minutes. This will include the reflective moment and the notices.
- The focal point of the assembly can take the form of a focused silence, a reading, a piece of music, song, collective singing, a picture or anything that develops the theme / core value.

- There should be no attempt at eliciting acts of assents or corporate public response, for example, 'Amen'. Responses are private, conditional and may be reflective in nature. It is important not to put pressure on the pupils to pray especially in a manner that would go against their own belief system.
- There should be a time for general reflection and silent thought on the theme of the assembly. When this occurs, in order to fulfil the law, it might be useful to say, 'if this is your custom, you might like to offer a silent prayer to God about...' An invitation to 'bow your head / close your eyes' is often used to encourage the pupils to reflect on the topic of the assembly.
- A prayer is said or read of a general nature, addressed to 'lord' and finished without any reference to a specific faith.
- A prayer from a specific faith is said / read, this could be prefixed with an introduction, for example, this is a prayer that is important to Christians/Muslims / ... this is a prayer that Christians say at Christmas. Those present can listen and learn or make the prayer their own, as they wish.
- High expectations of behaviour are expected throughout the assembly. Refer to the Broadway Assembly Ethos guidance. It is the school's expectation that pupils will sit quietly and wait for the assembly to begin, listening to any music being played. This moment of quiet is important to set the tone for collective worship.

7. Visitors

Visitors are welcome to contribute to collective worship at Broadway School. However, it will be made clear to them the ages of the pupils and the guidelines for how they treat prayer. If possible, a copy of the collective worship policy will be sent out to them in advance.

8. Right of Withdrawal

Parents / guardians / carers have the legal right to withdraw their child from collective worship, provided they give written notification to the school. Teachers can also exercise their right to withdraw from leading or attending acts of worship but attending 'assemblies' is part of a teacher's contractual duty.

At Broadway Academy we believe that our approach to collective worship is educationally sound and crucial to the spiritual, moral, social, cultural and intellectual development of our pupils. We take pleasure in the fact that all our children attend and that it is a time when we can share important lessons as a school community.

Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it. " Proverbs 2.6