



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION POLICY AND COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

Religious Education

Religious Education is entitled Philosophy and Ethics at RDUTC.

Philosophy and Ethics is taught to all year groups as part of the Personal Development curriculum. Students follow a compulsory module-based e learning programme which complies with the locally agreed syllabus and has been agreed with our SACRE representative. Students complete this programme in Independent Study. The content covers a range of current global issues with a religious focus and encourages students to reflect on each issue. Academic Mentors lead regular discussions with mentees about these key issues. There is an on line assessment at the end of each module.

The modules are as follows:

1. Harm no living thing.
2. What does it mean to be human?
3. Should Religion and Politics mix?
4. How does the media portray religion?
5. How do we make moral decisions?

Collective Worship

The Law in relation to Collective Worship

Current legislation seeks to uphold the broadly Christian basis for Collective Worship but without undervaluing the contribution other faiths make. This is also the intention of RDUTC.

Collective worship is usually provided within assemblies and reflection time during Independent Study and weekly Information, Advice and Guidance sessions. Each Year Group has weekly assemblies. RDUTC's largest venue – the Conference Centre – can only accommodate one Year Group at a time.

Implementation

Collective worship:

- be acceptable to the whole community, staff and students
- include a variety of elements at different times
- involve students

Collective Worship is of immense value as it seeks to:

- Promote community cohesion, a common ethos and shared values which underpin the life of the school. One way this is demonstrated is by the FBVs of Individual Liberty and Mutual Respect and Tolerance. This is modelled by staff inside and outside the classroom.
- Provide opportunities for students to consider FBVs and spiritual, moral, social and cultural issues.
- Provide opportunities for students and staff to share, celebrate, express their beliefs and reflect together.
- Reflect on values that are of a broadly Christian nature and on their own beliefs.

Collective worship is student-centred, it is related to their needs, experiences and relevant to their concerns. It acknowledges and celebrates diversity. It helps to foster a sense of community and a sense of shared values, identity and outlook.

Collective Worship is educational. It is a planned learning experience for the students, which is resourced thoughtfully and related to the school's objective to be a cohesive community where everyone is encouraged to aim high, work to their full potential and have the opportunity to make a positive contribution.

Collective Worship provides an opportunity in the busy schedule of the day for reflection and to share the successes and disappointments of the school community. Time is provided for students to think about questions of real meaning and opportunities for them to show understanding, empathy and care and develop FBVs.