



Houghton Primary School

Assemblies and Collective Worship

Our children have assemblies every day. It is a time to come together with their class, Key Stage group or as a whole school. Our assemblies enable us to build our shared values with the children through stories, drama, role play and song. They provide a collective opportunity for us to share and celebrate our achievements. Each class also presents an assembly once a year to an invited audience of parents and carers. Houghton School is not a church school but in every assembly we fulfil our statutory duty to provide daily collective worship.

School Policy for Collective Worship

Aims

The aim of the collective worship is to provide the **opportunity** for pupils to:

- ♦ worship God
- ♦ reflect on values that are of a broadly Christian nature and on their own beliefs
- ♦ develop a community spirit, a common ethos and shared values
- ♦ consider spiritual and moral issues
- ♦ respond to the worship offered.

Statutory Duty of School

Houghton Primary School provides daily collective worship for registered pupils. We recognise that parents have a right to withdraw their children from Religious Education (RE) and collective worship. If a parent asks for their child to be wholly or partly excused from attending any RE or collective worship at the school the school will comply unless the request is withdrawn.

The head teacher is responsible (under the School Standards and Framework Act 1998) for arranging the daily collective worship after consulting with the governing body. Daily collective worship at Houghton Primary School is wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character. The precise nature depends on the family background, ages and abilities of the pupils and is reviewed at least annually. Collective Worship at Houghton Primary School is provided within a daily assembly.

Implementation

Collective Worship, whether within a Whole School, Key Stage or Class Assembly, will:

- ♦ be acceptable to the whole community, staff and pupils
- ♦ include a variety of elements at different times
- ♦ invite the participation of the children

If parents wish to withdraw their child from RE or Collective Worship, or would like further information please contact the headteacher.