



# ST. SAMPSON'S HIGH SCHOOL

## Assembly Policy

Last Review Date:	August 2020
Last Reviewed by:	DWN
Next Review due:	August 2021

## **Assembly Policy**

### **1. Introduction**

#### **1.1. Rationale:**

It is our aim at St Sampson's High School that collective worship should:

- 1.1.1. Contribute to the spiritual, social, moral and cultural development of each child.
- 1.1.2. Give expression to, and reaffirm and practise the values of the school community
- 1.1.3. Allow reflection and response to the fundamental questions of life and those things that are of eternal concern and value to human beings
- 1.1.4. Support the social and emotional aspects of pupils learning
- 1.1.5. Celebrate and give thanks for the achievements within the school, local and international community and occasions of significance, including festivals.
- 1.1.6. To follow the guidelines of Guernsey's School Worship Policy.

#### **1.2. Purposes:**

- 1.2.1. To ensure that the School is meeting the legal requirements within the resources available.
- 1.2.2. To establish an organised, planned and orderly approach to assemblies.
- 1.2.3. To encourage assemblies to be of high quality, relevant and meaningful to all members of the School community.
- 1.2.4. To involve all stakeholders in assemblies as well as outside agencies

### **2. Guidelines**

#### **2.1. Groupings**

- 2.1.1. Each year group will have 'regular' assembly days to be confirmed on an annual basis
- 2.1.2. Each student will attend at least one assembly a week apart from students participating in an approved learning activity such as choir. Assemblies have been timetabled though not to be when choir is on so this will not be frequent.
- 2.1.3. There will be a whole school assembly at least once a term
- 2.1.4. There will be Year and House Assemblies at least once per half term.

#### **2.2. Responsibilities**

- 2.2.1. DWN has responsibility for compiling the termly assembly rota, to include suggested themes for all assemblies apart from Year and House assemblies.
- 2.2.2. Members of SLT supervise the entrance and departure of the students from the front and main door at school assemblies, attending, where possible, the assembly of the year group to which they are attached.
- 2.2.3. Heads of Year supervise their year group's arrival, behaviour and departure.
- 2.2.4. Tutors supervise the behaviour of their tutor groups.
- 2.2.5. All staff are expected to attend assemblies unless excused by the Principal Designate with staff attending assemblies of their choice if they are not tutors.

## **2.3. Content**

- 2.3.1. Assemblies should be of “a wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character capable of evoking an affirming response.”
- 2.3.2. They should be consistent with Christian belief and practices but must not be distinctive of any denomination or seek to coerce or indoctrinate.
- 2.3.3. They should provide the opportunity for collective worship and reflection enabling those of any religious faith or none to focus and reflect on stimuli which allow the human spirit to respond with integrity.
- 2.3.4. Assemblies should contribute to the learning of the students.
- 2.3.5. Assemblies will be led by a cross section of staff both internally or invited guests such as PACE.
- 2.3.6. The type of response that may be evoked can vary enormously. It could be a greater understanding; a sense of awe and wonder; a change in attitude; a moment’s reflection; or the desire to take some practical action.
- 2.3.7. Prayers may be used but the students should be given the opportunity to opt out of direct participation.
- 2.3.8. The benefits of collective worship should not be hampered by the giving of notices or disciplinary matters.
- 2.3.9. The following means of providing stimulating and imaginative collective worship should be considered: literature; music; drama; dance; video visual aids; displays; student participation; creative silence; prayer; PowerPoint; etc.
- 2.3.10. A list of suggested themes will be published each half term as guidance to assembly takers. These can also be used to provide a thought for the day by tutors and should be brought to the attention of the students and displayed in tutor rooms.

## **2.4. Assembly Takers**

- 2.4.1. All members of SLT will take assemblies regularly.
- 2.4.2. Other staff who express an interest in taking assemblies should be used.
- 2.4.3. Any member of staff can take an assembly if they wish and just need to give advance notice
- 2.4.4. The HUB and PACE are regularly invited to lead assemblies.
- 2.4.5. Tutor groups should be encouraged to take assemblies and this is built into the schedule.
- 2.4.6. Appropriate outside speakers representing a wide variety of backgrounds should be used frequently.

## **2.5. Other**

- 2.5.1. Parents have the right of withdrawing their child from assemblies. Those wishing to do so should contact the Principal Designate.
- 2.5.2. A record should be kept of the content of assemblies.
- 2.5.3. Assemblies should be carefully monitored and evaluated to ensure that the content is educationally valid and worthwhile.