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**Assembly Policy**

In caring about excellence and each other, and in promoting enjoyment and happiness through fulfilment, the members of Longton Primary School community believe in

**CARE through respect, support and togetherness**

**GROW through choice, opportunity and imagination**

**SHINE through challenge, achievement and celebration**

**Longton Primary School Assembly Policy**

The Assembly Policy at Longton Primary School pays due regard to statutory requirements, and has taken account of the guidance offered by Lancashire LEA through its SACRE.

The Assembly Policy of Longton Primary School is consonant with the philosophy and aims of the school as expressed on the school website and school prospectus.

**Definition of Assembly**

The Assembly is a time when the whole school, or groups within the school meet together in order to consider and reflect on common concerns, issues and interests. It offers all pupils an opportunity to engage in relevant, meaningful experiences and provides opportunities for the pupils’ spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.

**Aims of Assembly**

**For the School:**

The Assembly contributes significantly to the ethos of Longton Primary School and it is our aim that it is a time when the school community can:

* share common aims and values
* celebrate achievement and special times
* explore together the world in which we live
* develop a community spirit

**For the Pupils:**

We also intend that Assemblies contribute to the development of the pupil as a ‘whole’ person by providing opportunities to:

* consider spiritual and moral issues
* explore their own beliefs
* develop their own spirituality
* reinforce positive attitudes
* participate and respond
* reflect on what it means to be human

**The Contribution of Assemblies to aspects of the Curriculum**

Assembly time is distinct from curriculum time. However, in Longton Primary School, Assemblies will at times feature aspects of the curriculum, which will enhance the experiences of pupils by reflecting on the work done in classes. At times, Assemblies will enrich classwork through its consideration of subject matter from different perspectives.

The provision of opportunities for pupils’ spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is in line with school policy which informs our practice. To ensure Assemblies provide opportunities for spiritual, moral, social and cultural development it should address a wide variety of themes and topics, use diverse stimuli and resources and provide pupils with the opportunity to ‘respond’ on their own level.

**The Management of Assemblies**

The Headteacher and Senior Leadership Team are responsible for the planning, organization, monitoring and evaluation of the assemblies.

**The Organisation of Assemblies**

The Assembly includes the whole school and will take place in the school hall. The assembly will usually last for approximately 15 minutes, although it is recognised that this time will be shortened or lengthened when it is appropriate. Assemblies take place daily at the end of the school day.

**Leadership**

Every member of the school staff and occasional visitors will be involved in leading assemblies at some point in the school.

**Planning Assembly**

The content of all Assemblies will be considered carefully, to ensure relevance and suitability for the ages, aptitudes and backgrounds of all pupils.

Termly planning sheetslist themes, special occasions and events, but will be flexible to allow the inclusion of current and topical issues. A record of assembly themes will be kept these will ensure that there is continuity and progression, and enable the monitoring and evaluation of acts of assembly to take place.

Visitors will be welcome to lead Assemblies from time to time and will be given guidance.

**The Assembly format**

A variety of teaching and learning styles and active and interactive methods are appropriate in Assemblies. Any and all of the methods employed in the classroom can be used effectively in Assemblies. A variety of resources will also be used. Leaders will choose the style/method and resources, which are appropriate to the content, the age, aptitude and the background of the pupils.

The content and process must be sufficiently stimulating in order to evoke a response in the individual. This may not be visual, but opportunity must be given to express this response through reflection.

If announcements are to be given at the same time as an assembly then they will be of a positive nature, which at times may enhance the assembly itself. Announcements will be made at the beginning of the assembly and a clearly defined break between them and the assembly will be made.

**Church attendance**

We attend St Andrew’s Church at Harvest, Christmas and Easter to celebrate these Christian festivals. These assemblies are child led with input from the Parish Priest. We also use the Church building three times a year for achievement assemblies. Parents are invited to all of these events.

**Class assemblies**

Each year group will present an assembly for their parents once a year. This will take the format of a showcase of learning and experiences led by the children. These typically last 25 minutes and start at 9.00 am. Dates are published on the whole school calendar.

**Withdrawal**

Any parent who objects to their child attending an Assembly may request that their child is withdrawn. Parents are encouraged to discuss this with the headteacher. Any pupil who is withdrawn from an Assembly will be supervised during that time by a member of the school staff.

This policy will be reviewed in line with the policy cycle.

Date approved:

Signed