



ROEDEAN MOIRA HOUSE COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY 2018-19

This policy is for the whole school including the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)

PRINCIPLES

Roedean Moira House believes that collective worship both supports and strengthens what we aim to do in every aspect of school life. Our caring ethos, and the value which we place on the development of the whole child; spiritually, morally, socially, culturally and intellectually is reflected in our worship. We value this special time in the school day for the space it gives children to develop a reflective approach to life and the ability to express their reflections in traditionally religious ways or any other appropriate manner.

It is a legal requirement that all registered school age pupils take part in an act of worship each day. These acts of worship must be “wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character” for the majority of the time. They must also be “appropriate, having regard to the ages, aptitudes and family backgrounds of the pupils”.

Families who send their children to this school are from a range of faith backgrounds, including Christian, Muslim, Hindu, Jewish. We recognise that in asking our children to worship we have to consider the background that our children come from and it is therefore not the practice of this school to preach to or convert the children. The faith background of both the staff and the child’s family is respected at all times. Roedean Moira House is a non-denominational Christian School. As such morning assemblies are based around Christian doctrines. Some assemblies should also celebrate other religious and cultural beliefs, with a particular emphasis on cultures and religions represented within our own school community. The students are encouraged to consider other people who may need their help, in line with our school motto ‘Other People Matter’. Speakers from different organisations, including charities, talk to the students about how their time, money and work could support others in need.

AIMS

Through our collective worship we aim to provide a caring and supportive environment for pupils to:

- Become increasingly aware of themselves as individuals and groups within the school and wider community
- Grow in understanding of the feelings of other people in everyday situations and beliefs
- Explore the language which people use to express their feelings
- Deepen their sense of wonder about the world around them
- Grow in confidence when making a presentation to the group or whole school
- Respond freely to religious and/or spiritual stimulus
- Acknowledge diversity and affirm each person’s life stance, whether it be religious or not

PRACTICE

At Roedean Moira House we combine our acts of worship with assembly, helping to ensure that worship takes place within a broad educational framework. There are three assemblies each week for every girl in the school. In addition form teachers lead form groups through readings and reflections during form time on the two remaining mornings per week.

Members of the Senior Team and other key staff lead the whole school worship each week, whilst Heads of Section as well as Heads of Pyramid lead the other assemblies each week. Pupils are



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encouraged to take an active part in both planning and leadership at certain times of the year. Assemblies are sometimes discussed at School Council / Forum meetings and they are invited to submit ideas and get other children involved.

The school year has been divided into weekly themes, which encompass religious festivals, known national or international events, and aspects taken from the school calendar. Staff leading worship can then plan around the themes and a development of ideas can build up.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- The Principal is responsible (under the School Standards and Framework Act 1998) for arranging the daily collective worship after consulting with the School Council.
- The Head of PE, Events and Activities is responsible for planning the calendar and including the themes of the Week drawn up by the Head of RE on a termly basis.
- All form teachers draw the pupils' attention to the themes of the Week in form time.
- All Academic Staff are required to attend assemblies unless they have formally withdrawn from them by putting their request in writing and meeting with the Principal.
- Parents have a right to withdraw their daughter from collective worship. If a parent asks for their daughter to be wholly or partly excused from attending collective worship at the school the school must comply unless the request is withdrawn. Any parent who wishes to exercise this right should consult the Principal.
- The Education and Inspection Act 2006 makes provision for pupils in post-16 education to exercise the right to withdraw themselves from the daily act of collective worship, but not from assembly.

DISSEMINATION

This policy is shared with all staff and parents via the school website.

MONITORING AND REVIEW

Compliance is monitored by Heads of Section and the programme is reviewed annually.

The School Council review this policy on an annual basis.

Related policies and documents

This policy should be read in conjunction with the following policies and documents:

- Employee Handbook
- Staff Handbook
- Code of Conduct for Employees
- Health Safety Handbook
- Boarding Staff Handbook
- National Minimum Standards for Boarding Schools
- ISI Handbook for the Inspection of Schools, Regulatory Requirements
- Teachers' Standards
- Departmental Handbook
- Keeping Children Safe in Education



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Safeguarding Policy
Pastoral Care Policy
Complaints Policy (Parents)
Complaints Policy (Pupils)

POLICY REVIEWED BY SCHOOL: May 2018

POLICY REVIEWED BY SCHOOL COUNCIL: June 2017

NEXT REVIEW: June 2019