



IMMANUEL COLLEGE

Collective Worship Policy

Principles

Immanuel College was opened in 2000 initially as a Church of England Voluntary Aided School. Since February 2016 we are now a Church of England Academy within the new Anglican Diocese of Leeds. Our Church of England foundation is partly seen by our participation in Collective Worship.

Being a Church of England Academy, our Christian ethos is at the heart of our life together. Immanuel means 'God with us' and we believe that we are 'All God's children'. Part of this belief is to encourage all students and staff of Christian faith, other faiths, or no faith, to be invited to the threshold of Christian worship. As an inclusive community no one is expected to make a particular faith response in Collective Worship though they can request to be withdrawn from it. However, we believe that our Collective Worship is open and accessible to all. It allows students to be reflective in their own way using a broadly Christian act of worship. This is done in different ways, partly through House Assemblies, but also through classroom based activities in Form Group time.

General Aims

In the light of these principles, we seek to affirm the spirit of our Church of England foundation, and to place particular emphasis on

- offering an opportunity for personal reflection and stillness;
- providing the school community with a time to reflect upon shared values and the spiritual dimension of human experience;
- providing occasions to celebrate and affirm those 'things which matter' to the school and individuals within it, as well as to the wider community;
- offering varied opportunities to experience different aspects of Christian understanding and prayer;
- setting all this within the Church of England tradition of a reasonable and balanced understanding of God the Father as revealed in Jesus, made known by the Holy Spirit, and witnessed to in Scripture and in the ongoing life of the Church in the world'
- presenting this generous understanding of God that people of other churches and of other beliefs may feel their insights affirmed and honoured, and feel themselves included within the school's corporate life.