



Social, Moral, Spiritual and Cultural Education and Development of All Students and Collective Worship Policy

This policy was approved and ratified by the Cox Green School

on

23rd September 2025

Version	Authorisation	Approval Date	Effective Date	Next Review
1	Full Governing Body	3/12/2013	3/12/2013	July 2015
1.2	Full Governing Body	7/7/2015	1/9/2015	July 2018
1.3	People and External Relations Committee	6/6/2017	6/6/2017	June 2020
1.4	People and External Relations Committee	2/6/2020	2/6/2020	June 2023
1.5	Senior Leadership Team	15/9/2022	15/9/2022	September 2025
1.6	Senior Leadership Team	23/9/2025	23/9/2025	September 2028



Introduction and Vision

SMSC and Collective Worship at Cox Green School sets out to meet the requirements in Section 78 of the Education Act 2002 and promote the spiritual, moral, social and cultural (SMSC) development of our pupils and promote British Values. Our Collective Worship should be broadly Christian in character whilst reflecting the needs and diverse school community, so that all feel valued regardless of their background.

Our values of being kind, respectful and determined are central to developing SMSC and Collective Worship at Cox Green. Our vision is for all to embody these values so that everyone in the community has high aspirations to progress as well-rounded citizens with the life skills required to be successful in their next steps.

1. Aims

Collective worship at Cox Green is intended to provide a caring and supportive environment for pupils to:

- A. To gather in a community setting to develop a community spirit and understanding of British Values and promote the school values of kindness, respect and determination;
- B. Deepen their sense of awe and wonder at the world in which we live;
- C. Acknowledge and respect diversity and difference;
- D. To explore spiritual and moral issues and empower students to identify and develop their own beliefs, and allow for individual reflection on the world, themselves and others;
- E. To develop a sense of shared values and achievements which cross cultural and religious boundaries;
- F. To encourage acknowledgement of the achievements, struggles and sufferings of other human beings.

2. Organisation

Each year group has a weekly assembly. This is on a rota planned by the SLT lead for PD, which ensures a variety of staff and student groups lead the assemblies. Each week has a theme of one of the school's values, as well as something pertinent to the time of year, e.g. Anti-Bullying Ambassadors doing Anti-Bullying Week and Being Kind. Each half term, there is a celebration assembly led by the Head of Year, as well as an end-of-term whole-school celebration assembly and annual prize-giving events. Guest speakers are invited to speak where appropriate.

	Assembly
Monday	Y7 and Sixth Form
Tuesday	Y11
Wednesday	Y10
Thursday	Y9
Friday	Y8



The Tutor Programme's Wednesday Wellness session consolidates SMSC content from PD Sessions, as well as adapting to current affairs and events where appropriate.

Due to the limitations of the school building and the school day, it is impossible for the school to comply completely with the requirements in terms of the frequency of collective worship. We have made all reasonable efforts to comply with the legislation. The content of each assembly is designed to enhance the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of students. They provide opportunities for reflection, celebrate and praise achievements and promote recognition of each student's own worth and potential. Collective worship contributes to the ethos of the school by promoting shared values of kindness, respect and determination by encouraging students to have a positive attitude towards their learning, towards one another and towards the wider community.

For students who want a space to pray as part of special celebrations such as Ramadan and Eid, the school will provide a supervised space for this to happen.

SMSC is the responsibility of all teachers and subjects. Subject Leaders are consulted at the start of every year to review where and how SMSC is delivered in their curriculum areas. SMSC provision is enhanced and focussed on through the fortnightly PD sessions and, where appropriate, the Wednesday Wellness tutor programme. These sessions have SMSC at their core, displaying which values are being looked at in any given session, and developing skills and knowledge that develop the embodiment of kindness, respect and determination now and in the students' futures.

Through the JSL (Junior Student Leadership) and House system, termly and annual whole school events occur that bring the community together, all of which have a significant student leadership element. There are charity events to raise money and donations for local, national and international causes. These events are displayed online and around the school on notice boards and media screens where appropriate.

3. Roles and Responsibilities

It is the overall responsibility of the Headteacher to ensure that acts of collective worship are effective, fit for purpose and conducted according to school policy. It is the responsibility of the person conducting the assembly to ensure acts of collective worship and reflection are carried out, and that the presentation is reflective of the assembly's theme of the week. However, within the legal framework and theme suggestions, staff conducting collective worship are free to employ whatever format is seen as appropriate. A variety of resources and methods can be used in collective worship. Imagination and careful preparation are essential if pupils are to broaden their horizons and be led to reflect on fundamental human issues. It is the responsibility of the form tutor or staff member escorting a form group to accompany and remain with the tutor group throughout collective worship to assist with supervision. In the event of collective worship overrunning into lesson time, which should not be a frequent occurrence, staff may leave whilst proceedings continue.

The monitoring and evaluation of SMSC and Collective Worship is the responsibility of the SLT lead for PD, who reports to the Headteacher and Trustees as appropriate.

4. Special Days and Acts of Remembrance

Seasonal events of both a religious and non-religious nature are marked in the assembly rota e.g. Advent, Eid and Black History. Remembrance Day is marked by a whole school act of remembrance. Assemblies



should recognise the importance of such events to the school and wider community, encouraging inclusion, cultural diversity and empathy.

5. Right to Withdrawal

All parents have the right to request that their child be withdrawn from assemblies (section 71 of the Schools Standards and Framework Act (1998)). Under no circumstances will students be asked to accept beliefs which are contrary to their family background. Parents may withdraw their children from Collective Worship on the grounds of conscience, should they wish to do so, but we believe that Collective Worship is inclusive and beneficial for all students. Parents are asked to contact the Headteacher to discuss any concerns. The school continues to be responsible for the supervision of any student withdrawn from Collective Worship.

Parents can also request removal from PD sessions on topics of their choice and should raise any concerns around this with the school.

6. Communication of Policy

This policy will be published on the school website and the staff intranet.

7. Review of Policy

This policy shall be reviewed every 3 years by the Senior Leadership Team of Cox Green School.