



Collective Worship at Cotham School

The law requires schools to provide an opportunity for all students to take part in collective worship* (1988 Education Act). At Cotham School each Year Group has an assembly once every week.

The definition of Collective Worship under the Education Act is the coming together of students for reflection of a spiritual/moral nature and/or worship. In the context of Cotham 'worship' is interpreted as a shared reflective response to an ideal or value of some worth and/or to a divine being or power.

We believe that collective worship aids the students' social, moral, spiritual and personal development and contributes to the school's ethos through acknowledging and developing the school culture as a community with shared values, ethos, and goals.

It is important that all members of the school actively participate in collective worship and to this end the programme for every year will include contributions from individual students, tutor groups, members of staff from the different curriculum areas and the Senior Leaders, in addition to visiting speakers. Topics may include themes such as confronting injustice, environmental issues, personal values, superstition. Collective worship is also arranged to coincide with key calendar events such as Valentine's Day, Ramadan, New Year and Easter.

We recognise that Cotham School is a highly diverse, multi-faith community and we share and celebrate views of all religions and none. In addition to Collective Worship, we provide a prayer and reflection room for students of any faith or none to use at lunchtimes each day.

Parents/carers have the right to withdraw their children from collective worship.