# Assemblies and Collective Worship Policy

**Effective Date September 2026**

## Subject to forthcoming Curriculum Review

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| Approved by: | Trust Executive | Policy created by |
| Reviewed in: | September 2026 | Date of Adoption: January 2023 |
| Next review due: | September 2027 | |

## 1 STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLE

Assemblies at schools within Lumero Educational Trust ("the Trust") will be organised and delivered in such a way that they will act as a key learning experience for staff and pupils that directly supports the curriculum aims of the school. This includes acting as a stimulus for PSHE work alongside religious, moral and social enquiry. Assemblies will provide a framework for reinforcing the community ethos of school life, where achievement and success is celebrated and pupils are encouraged to develop a sense of pride and affiliation to the school as a whole.

As a trust, our funding agreement is drafted to mirror the requirements for an act of collective worship in local authority-maintained schools. This legislation is set out in the School Standards and Framework Act 1998 Section 70. In accordance with the Funding Agreement for schools within Lumero Educational Trust, arrangements for collective worship will mirror those applying to maintained schools. Collective worship will be provided daily for all pupils unless parents exercise their right of withdrawal, or pupils aged 16 and over choose to withdraw themselves

While all pupils attend assemblies, only those elements designated as collective worship fulfil the Trust's statutory obligations. Assemblies may include educational, pastoral, achievement, careers, safeguarding and PSHE themes, whereas collective worship includes opportunities for reflection and worship that are wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character.

Our schools are without a religious designation and therefore must provide collective worship that is wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character as per the DfE guidance. A school can reflect the religious backgrounds represented in its community, as long as the majority of provision is broadly Christian. Collective worship and assemblies will be delivered in a manner that is inclusive, respectful and sensitive to the diverse beliefs, backgrounds and identities represented within the school community.

## 2 AIMS OF ASSEMBLIES, PSHE AND COLLECTIVE WORSHIP IN EACH SCHOOL

The key aims of what the school wishes to pursue through its assemblies and approach to the delivery of PSHE include:

- Fostering a sense of enquiry and interest in a range of religious, moral, spiritual, social and wider life issues that link to identified key themes for each term for the assemblies.
- Fostering a sense of community and loyalty to the school underpinned by a community spirit, a common ethos and shared values.
- Providing a public platform to encourage and celebrate individual and collective successes.
- Provide an opportunity for staff and pupils to share experiences and to present their particular areas of interest to the rest of the school.

- To act as a means of encouraging collective worship and reflection on the beliefs and values of Christian and other world faiths.
- To encourage pupils to develop a sense of occasion and to understand how to behave and respond when gathered in the whole school setting.

### 2.1 Format/Types of Assemblies held at the School

There will be one assembly held in a typical week at the school for each year group:

- The assembly programme will be developed each year by the responsible senior leader. All assemblies will be led/facilitated by the appropriate senior leader and/or Head of Year with contribution from directed staff. Assemblies will take place once a week with a specifically created schedule that focuses on raising achievement, careers and future aspirations.
- The weekly year-group assembly forms one element of the school's collective worship provision. Daily opportunities for collective worship and reflection may also be delivered through tutor time, form periods, year-group activities, whole-school events or other planned opportunities.

### 2.2 Monitoring and Evaluation

- In each Lumero school, a designated senior leader will oversee the assembly and collective worship programme.
- Pupil voice will be used to evaluate impact.
- Governors will receive periodic reports on implementation.
- The annual programme will be reviewed for statutory compliance, inclusivity and curriculum alignment. This may happen during Trust Peer Reviews, audit reviews or other quality assurance activities.

## 3 OBJECTIVES

### 3.1 For Pupils

- To reflect on a range of topical moral, religious and/or social issues and to use these reflections in becoming more informed citizens when making decisions and forming opinions.
- To take opportunities to become involved in the delivery of assemblies.
- To develop skills of enquiry and debate in working with their teachers on the assembly follow up and thoughts for the week.
- To become positive role models for their peers and the school showing sensitivity and learning how to respond and behave appropriately to the issues raised and methods of delivery used during the school assemblies.

### 3.2 For Parents and Carers

- To be fully involved by supporting the school in its expectations for behaviour and attitude during assemblies.

- To discuss with their son/daughter the content of the assembly.

### 3.3 For Teachers

- To volunteer to lead in the delivery of an assembly during the school year.
- To work with their pupils and others to devise and deliver an interactive, stimulating and thought-provoking assembly.
- To plan and prepare so that follow up work on Assembly themes builds on pupil reflection and reinforces their learning.
- To attend all assemblies, remain with their groups and to act as role models and set clear expectations for pupil behaviour.

### 3.4 For the School Leadership Team

- Through the appropriate senior leader, to co-ordinate the assembly rota for the Academic year and to ensure that assemblies are a stimulating and thought-provoking learning experience for staff and pupils.
- To contribute to the mapping exercise for PSHE ensuring that all programmes of study positively cover the key requirements of PSHE.

### 3.5 For the Governors

- To be fully involved in supporting the school in its delivery of assemblies and collective worship. This could be in the form of governor (employer) support and delivery.
- To annually receive the Assembly and Collective Worship Policy.

## 4 PARENTS CAN WITHDRAW THEIR CHILD FROM COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

- Parents/Carers can request that their child be totally or partially withdrawn from collective worship under the terms of The Education Reform Act 1988 S.9 (3). A request must be submitted to the Headteacher of the school.
- A child over the age of 16 can also request to be totally or partially withdrawn from collective worship. A request must be submitted to the Headteacher of the school.
- Every request will be respected and the individual arrangements for the child, and how the child's withdrawal can be accommodated, will be discussed with the parents/carers.

**Please note that this policy is subject to the forthcoming Curriculum Review and therefore to changes**