

ROYAL ALEXANDRA AND ALBERT SCHOOL

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

Approved by the Governing Body 19 March 2008

The Royal Alexandra and Albert School (RAAS) is a 'voluntary-aided' school. Its Foundation is committed to nurturing a worshipping and caring community based upon Christian principles. The activities of the School Chapel are central to these aims.

Collective worship at RAAS will promote the following:

1. A working knowledge, critical understanding, and respect of the traditional biblical and church beliefs on which Western law and other institutions are founded.
2. Intelligent awareness and respect for all faiths present in each pupil's home country, and the School in particular. Occasional presentation of such faiths may be included at School services, consistent with respect of the faith concerned and our own chapel building.
3. Experience of how faith can nurture community spirit, shared values and a common ethos
4. Experience of service to others as a fundamental human activity and privilege
5. Opportunities to organise and participate in diverse experiences of worship.
6. The role of art and music as responses to religious awareness. In particular, nurture of the varied Anglican musical tradition.
7. Awareness of the balance between personal and communal faith.
8. Opportunities to receive Baptism or Confirmation in a student's chosen denomination, and according to family circumstances. We will not permit proselytising from other faiths.
9. Lively reflection on contemporary ethical and political issues
10. Awareness of annual occasions significant to British history and culture.

A schedule of weekday Chapel Assemblies, House Assemblies, Year Assemblies and Key Stage 2 Assemblies will be published termly by the Chaplain to all Houses and the Senior Leadership Team. Principal events will be included on the School web site calendar.

- ◆ The schedule of Sunday worship will be proposed by the Chaplain, authorised by the Headmaster, and similarly published as above. In order to participate in the international liturgical calendar, observance of a major festival occurring on a weekday may occasionally replace Sunday worship.
- ◆ The legal right of parents to withdraw children from collective worship in national schools is acknowledged. Such right is exercised through a written request to the Headmaster.