



# PUDSEY GRAMMAR SCHOOL

EST.1905

## Collective Worship

## Policy 2025-2026

Ratified: Student Support

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Our collective worship policy aims to make the key values underpinning many of the world's religious faiths relevant to young people in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. R.E at Pudsey Grammar School is inclusive; the curriculum promotes religious literacy and cultural diversity.

Our schools' values of respect, resilience, integrity, compassion and ambition are all reflected in religious texts, as is the work we do relating to spiritual, moral, social and cultural education. (SMSC) These aspects are covered in core R.E alongside other curriculum areas which exemplify these attributes across key stages.

Our values are:

- Respect - we show respect for ourselves, others and for people who are different from us. We show respect for the building, our local and wider environments. We are mutually respectful, treating others the way we want to be treated ourselves.
- Resilience - we have a clear self-belief, determination and understand that making mistakes is a key part of learning. We know that the more effort we put in, the better we will become.
- Integrity – we are trustworthy and honest, true to our word and take responsibility for our actions.
- Compassion – we care and are considerate towards others. We value kindness, empathy and understanding and have a strong desire to make the world a better place.
- Ambition – we value educational achievement, have high expectations of ourselves and aim to be the best person we can. No matter how good we are, we always strive for improvement.

The Government's non-statutory guidance regarding collective worship states that it is an opportunity to '*develop community spirit, promote a common ethos, shared values and reinforce positive attitudes*'.

All of our students participate in weekly assemblies which reinforce these principles but in addition to this, students also participate in daily form time sessions which follow a carefully devised programme that allows pupils room to explore and celebrate their own and other's religious traditions, culture and values.

This policy is sensitive to the composition of our school as our students and staff are individuals. As a result, we have many different faiths and also those who do not hold religious beliefs.

As one of our values is 'compassion' and is underpinned by an ability to show kindness, empathy and consideration towards others, it would be inappropriate to espouse one religion to the exclusion of others. As a result, we take a holistic educational approach to collective worship and use this policy as a vehicle to further embed the values our organisation has with everyone involved in it.

## Religious Education at Pudsey Grammar

Our **Religious Education curriculum** plays a key role in shaping students' understanding of faith, belief, and moral philosophy:

- **Key Stage 3** – Following the **Believing and Belonging Pennine Syllabus**, students explore diverse religious traditions, ethical questions, and worldviews. In Year 7 pupils study all six world faiths as well as Humanism through a theological lens, this is echoed in Year 8 but through an anthropological lens and in Year 9 through a philosophical lens.
- **GCSE Religious Studies** – Students follow the AQA syllabus looking at some of the ethical and moral issues facing the world around them such as social justice, conflict and the environment. The theology papers focus on the religions of **Christianity and Buddhism**, covering beliefs, practices, and ethical teachings.
- **Core Religious Studies in Year 10 and 11** - Look at ethical issues in the world today such as the justice system, abortion and euthanasia. In Year 11 pupils look at philosophical and ethical theories to help them understand their place in the world today.
- **A-Level Religious Studies** – Students follow the OCR Religious Studies A level engage in an in-depth study of **Christian Theology**, as well as examining theological and philosophical debates.

### Withdrawal from R.E

Parents/Carers do have a statutory right to withdraw their child from religious education.

This right of withdrawal exists for all students in all types of schools.

If a parent or carer is considering withdrawal from R.E, we will listen to their concerns or opinions. We invite them to do so with a senior representative from the school.

We do work hard to ensure that any reservations that might be held, can be accommodated to avoid withdrawal. We recognise that a parent/carers has the right, should doubts not be resolved to continue with withdrawal.

Any formal withdrawal should be made in writing to the Headteacher. We will

ask parents/carers each year if they wish to continue with the withdrawal.

If a student is withdrawn, the school has a duty of care to look after the child, but not to provide alternative education. Any arrangements made must not incur extra cost for the school or the local authority.