

Royal Alexandra & Albert School



Collective Worship Policy

This policy was originated by Paul Johnstone, Chaplain

**It was approved by the Pupil Matters Pastoral Committee
on 25 February 2016 and by the Governing Body on 23 March 2016**

It is next due for re-approval in Spring 2017

1. The Royal Alexandra and Albert School (RAAS) is a 'voluntary-aided' school. Its Foundation is committed to building a worshipping and caring community based upon Christian principles. The School Chapel is central to these aims.
2. Collective worship at RAAS will promote the following:
 - Knowledge, critical understanding, and respect of traditional biblical and church beliefs on which Western law and institutions are founded.
 - Intelligent appreciation of all faiths and viewpoints held by RAAS families. Occasional presentation of these may be included during weekly worship, consistent with respect for the belief concerned and the School's own tradition.
 - Experience of belief nurturing community spirit, ethos, and shared values.
 - Experience of service to others as a fundamental human activity and privilege.
 - Opportunities to participate in diverse experiences of worship, and in particular, corporate silence for reflection and prayer.
 - The role of art and music as universal responses to religious awareness. In particular, the varied Anglican musical tradition.
 - Awareness of connections between personal and communal faith.
 - Baptism and/or confirmation of staff or students in a chosen denomination, and with respect for family circumstances. We do not permit proselytising from other faiths for this purpose.
 - Lively reflection on contemporary ethical and political issues.
 - Awareness of annual occasions significant to British history and culture.
 - Maximum pupil participation in all School services and year assemblies.
3. A schedule of Chapel Services, House and Year Assemblies is published weekly by the Chaplain to Boarding Houses and the Senior Leadership Team. Principal events are included on the School web site calendar.
4. 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.