

Longdean School



Assembly Policy

Reviewed: October 2014
Ratified: October 2014
Next review: October 2015

Longdean School Assembly Policy

School Context

Longdean School takes students from a wide variety of family, ethnic and religious backgrounds. In these circumstances we feel that assemblies should have a strong element of reflection on moral, ethical and philosophical issues, as well as reflecting and celebrating the key events of a range of religious faiths.

Aims:

1. To promote the overall aims of the school as agreed by governors. These aims are displayed prominently around the school and inform all of our work.
2. To promote students' sense of being a member of their House and also the community at Longdean School.
3. To develop students' personal qualities including their self-esteem, their sense of identity, their openness and tolerance, and their ability to reflect on these qualities and other aspects of life's fundamental experiences.
4. To promote the school's commitment to equality of opportunity by celebrating, giving value to and learning about different ethnic and faith groups, in particular those represented within the school community.
5. To promote students' moral development by exploring values and qualities that can be supported by both members of faith communities and by those who are not members of a faith community.
6. Assemblies will also take into account current local, national and global issues that are topical and student's awareness is essential to their personal and collective safety or their role as local or global citizens.

Roles & Responsibilities:

- An Assistant Headteacher has overall responsibility for the assembly programme including mapping assembly themes when appropriate, organizing the assembly rota (including the Senior Leadership Team).
- The first assembly of the year is led by the Headteacher. This assembly focuses on reinforcing the school ethos of celebrating success, reward, appropriate choices and high achievement as laid out in the school vision statement 'I am proud of who I am and what I have achieved today'.
- Once a half term there will be a Headteacher's assembly held in the Sports Hall for all students in Year 7 – 13 (The focus of these assemblies will change but will regularly feature positive contributions that students' have made academically or through extra-curricular activities in addition to seasonal based topics).
- There will be one House assembly per week. These assemblies provide an opportunity to develop a House identity and to organize the students to represent their House in various competitions.
- Reward assemblies will be held once a term and led by Directors of House. These assemblies will celebrate success and the achievements of House members and tutor groups.
- Parents have a right to choose for their children not to attend assemblies. If a parent is considering exercising this right their first step should be to make an appointment with the Headteacher.
- The Governing Body will regularly review this policy in line with the School Improvement Plan and make it available to parents and for inspection.