



Rochdale Islamic Academy
inspire - believe - achieve

GIRLS' SCHOOL

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

Reviewed: August 2023

Next Review: August 2024

Approved by Board of Trustees: August 2023

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

RIAG is a school founded on Islamic principles. We aim to provide the students with a learning environment which nurtures and strengthens their faith (IMAAN) to build a firm foundation for future development and involvement as active members of the Islamic Sunni faith and of society as a whole.

PURPOSE

This policy provides a framework and guidance for staff to deliver the statutory requirement for collective worship.

FORMS OF COLLECTIVE WORSHIP AT RIAG

The school will ensure that:

- There are assemblies for each year group every week- one assembly will focus on a *sunnah* of the week.
- Weekly *halaqahs* (circle time) take place. These will be alternately student-led and teacher-led. Year 10 and 11 students will 'teach' a group of approx. 10 students a pre-prepared lesson on various aspects of Islam such as cleanliness, respecting parents, treating people kindly etc. The sessions will be supervised by teachers for the purposes of behaviour management.
- Every lesson begins and ends with a short prayer
- Students are given the opportunity to offer obligatory prayers (Salaah) at school.

AIMS

Collective worship makes an important contribution to the spiritual, moral, and cultural development of students. It provides students with an opportunity: -

- To worship Allah (God)
- To reflect on values that are of a broadly Islamic nature and on their own beliefs
- To celebrate their own and other people's achievement
- To develop the capacity to transcend the limitations of the physical world
- To lift the horizons of pupils beyond the materialistic
- To ask for forgiveness and learn about humility
- To pause for reflection and stillness amid the pressure of the school day
- To empathise with those less fortunate than themselves
- To develop a community spirit
- To understand what it means to live in a multi-faith society
- To understand their roles and responsibilities as a Muslim

SALAAH

All students offer their Salaah together in the hall at school; this may follow on immediately after lunch or in the afternoon.

IMPLEMENTATION

Collective worship will: -

- Be acceptable to the whole community, staff, and pupils
- Include a variety for elements at different times
- Involve all the pupils

CONTENT

The content of an assembly/ halaqah may reflect any of the following:-

- marking the celebration of a broad range of religious and cultural festivals that reflect a diversity of faiths
- Examples and stories of lives of prophets and people of faith and other good human beings
- response to key local, national, and international events
- providing an opportunity to think about their own beliefs
- putting things into practice e.g., supporting charities
- providing a moment for silent reflection/prayer
- celebration of successes of members of the school community
- performances or presentations from members of the school community
- input from visiting speakers