

## Statement of intent: Daily Collective Worship

At Queen Elizabeth School, Collective Worship is the start of each school day. It is a dedicated space where our entire community comes together to pause, reflect, and develop. While rooted in our Church of England foundational identity, our worship is intentionally inclusive, inviting pupils of all faiths and none to engage in a meaningful personal and shared reflection. This allows them to learn about themselves, listen to other viewpoints and reflect on issues beyond the curriculum.

### Our Core Values in Action

Our daily acts of worship are not just a routine; they are the primary vehicle for exploring and embedding our four Core Values:

- **Hope:** We use worship to look forward with optimism. It is a time to inspire our young people, cultivate students' ambitions, and remind our community that even in challenging times, positive change is possible.
- **Respect:** Worship fosters a deep appreciation for diversity, different worldviews, and unique lived experiences. We ensure we provide space where every individual is valued, and listening to one another is practiced as an act of mutual respect.
- **Resilience:** Through stories of perseverance from both our immediate community, historical figures, and shared reflection, we encourage pupils to develop the inner strength needed to face adversity. Worship teaches us that setbacks are part of growth.
- **Community:** Coming together daily reminds us that we belong to something bigger than ourselves. We celebrate achievements, support one another through challenges, and strengthen the bonds that unite our school, local, and global communities.

## Engaging our students & the Unicef Rights Respecting Schools Award

We firmly believe that Collective Worship should not be something done to young people, but something created *with* and *for* them. Engaging pupils actively is vital; it transforms worship from a passive listening exercise into a transformative, lived experience that shapes character and agency.

This commitment to high engagement directly mirrors our dedication to the **Unicef Rights Respecting Schools Award (RRSA)**. Our worship explicitly connects to:

**Article 12 (Respect for the views of the child):** Every child has the right to express their views, feelings, and wishes on all matters affecting them, and to have their views considered seriously.

**Article 14 (Freedom of thought, belief and religion):** Every child has the right to think and believe what they choose and also to practise their religion, as long as they are not stopping other people from enjoying their rights.

By placing these articles at the center of our worship framework, we ensure that:

1. **Pupil Voice drives worship:** Children are actively involved in planning, leading, and evaluating collective worship, ensuring their thoughts and creative ideas are taken seriously (Article 12).
2. **Rights are explored contextually:** We use worship to explore global justice, human rights, and topical issues, empowering our pupils to become "agents of change" and global citizens who advocate for the rights of others and themselves.
3. **Inclusivity:** Our approach ensures that every child's right to freedom of thought and belief is fiercely protected, creating an environment where all children feel safe to reflect in accordance with their own family backgrounds (Article 14).

As a school we are committed to explicitly promoting curiosity and engagement with DACW playing a central role. We aim to develop students' advocacy and passion for activism, mobilising students to engage and be active citizens in a rapidly changing world.

Through this intentional approach, our daily collective worship equips our young people with the spiritual, moral, social, and cultural tools they need to flourish as respectful, resilient, and hopeful members of our global community beyond their life at Queen Elizabeth School.