

# Copleston High School

## Summary of Spiritual and Moral Education (including collective worship) Policy

The School seeks to promote **educational values**:

commitment to learning;  
the pursuit of truth;  
respect for reason;  
realising potential  
the pursuit of opportunities and the broadening of horizons;  
“education is a lifelong activity”;  
equality of access.

The School seeks to promote **moral values**:

“we should respect each other and treat others in the way we would like to be treated”;  
“everyone is different but equally important”;  
behaviour should not be “aggressive, deliberately annoying or provocative”;  
politeness and the avoidance of language which might offend;  
respect for the truth;  
allowing others “to work without disruption”;  
“care for our environment”;  
“respect for each other’s property”  
“respond helpfully if someone is in difficulty”;  
bullying is deplored by the school and is dealt with seriously;  
giving help to others where possible, whether in the School, the local community or further afield;

The School seeks to promote **social values**:

respect for school rules and for the law;

respect for the beliefs and opinions of others, as a preparation for adult life in a plural, democratic society;

pride in School Uniform, and “respect for the traditions and achievements of the school”;

recognizing and celebrating the successes of School and of its members;

seeking to take active responsibility for others.

### SPIRITUAL AND MORAL DEVELOPMENT ACROSS THE CURRICULUM

All subjects play a part in developing “the knowledge and understanding essential to both spiritual and moral development, and the ability to make responsible and reasoned judgements”. Spiritual questions about the origins of the universe or the nature of proof or the meaning of truth arise in many different subjects. Similarly, moral questions arise or are implicit in all subjects; for example, Science (e.g. issues of life and death); Geography (e.g. environmental and development issues); History (growth of freedom and tolerance and of war and peace) and PE (e.g. obeying the rules of the game and developing teamwork).

## **RELIGIOUS STUDIES**

The School recognises the central importance of religious education in promoting spiritual and moral development and offers **Religious Studies** as both a core programme and an academic qualification at both GCSE and A Level.

## **COLLECTIVE WORSHIP**

The School complies with the legal requirement for a daily act of collective worship (School Standards and Framework Act 1998, Section 70) in the context of the constraints imposed by its accommodation and facilities. These dictate that children have a mixture each week of school two assemblies

All assemblies take place on the school premises.

As required by law, most assemblies which take place each term reflect the broad traditions of Christian belief without being distinctive of any particular Christian denomination.

Reflection on a range of personal, social, moral or spiritual issues, which should be considered in a manner which is consistent with the agreed School values.

Response to affirm and celebrate the agreed school values and to act in accordance with these; to encourage the pupils to aspire to higher values and visions of the good life; to encourage them to commit themselves to positive ways of living. As appropriate, this could be structured around five key responses:

- (i) celebration
- (ii) acknowledging failures and shortcomings
- (iii) expressions of thankfulness
- (iv) commitment
- (v) action.