



RYEDALE SCHOOL

Aspire and Achieve

Assembly Policy 2019-2020

Rationale

The school believes that assemblies are fundamental in promoting the ethos of the school and providing students with an opportunity for collective reflection and the consideration of spiritual, moral, social and cultural (SMSC) issues.

Assemblies will also take into account current local, national and global issues that are topical and students' awareness is essential to their personal and collective safety or their role as local or global citizens.

On the basis of these values, the assembly programme will:

- Develop an understanding of our own characters, strengths and weaknesses;
- Develop self-respect and self-discipline;
- Clarify the meaning and purpose in our lives and decide, on the basis of this, how we believe that our lives should be lived;
- Encourage us to strive, throughout life, for knowledge, wisdom and understanding.

The school is committed to developing skills of citizenship and assemblies provide an opportunity to share community values and success.

Our assembly programme incorporates large school gatherings which are a part of the tradition and ethos of Ryedale School. These include Key Stage assemblies, end of term assemblies and Attitude to Learning assemblies in addition to weekly year group assemblies.

Principles

All year groups will have at least one assembly per week.

Student involvement in assemblies is actively encouraged and themes are used as a basis for students to perform or present in assemblies eg: Anti-Bullying week.

In Years 7 to 11 there will be a regular programme of senior staff assemblies and external guest speakers when appropriate.

An orderly entry into the assembly hall is essential for every assembly.

GCSE certificate evening and Year Group achievement ceremonies take place annually. These gatherings include music, speeches and are key opportunities to celebrate success and achievement at all levels. Parents, governors, guest speakers and staff attend.



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Some assemblies will incorporate national education agendas eg. supporting positive mental health amongst students.

On a half termly basis, each year group will have a Celebration Assembly to acknowledge student achievement both inside and outside of school.

House assemblies occur every half term and are led by House Leaders and Year 11 House Captains.

Houses meet as a group incorporating students from Years 7-11.

House assemblies provide an opportunity to develop a House identity and organise the students to represent their House in various competitions.

Many assemblies, but by no means all, incorporate a moment of quiet reflection that relates to a moral/topical issue focus affecting students' roles as local and/or global citizens. Assemblies are designed to be accessible to students of all religions and none.

Roles and Responsibilities

The Assistant Headteacher has overall responsibility for the assembly programme including mapping assembly themes when appropriate, organising the assembly rota (including the senior staff assembly programme).

Records of assemblies are kept to check quality and themes delivered.

Monitoring

The Assistant Headteacher will run a programme of quality assurance for the assemblies. Assembly themes are recorded and mapped where possible/appropriate without them losing creativity and individuality.

Policy Review Timescales:

Reviewed By:

Date of Policy:

Review Date:

Annual

Secondary Director

September 2019

July 2020