



## PRIORY INFANT SCHOOL

# ASSEMBLY POLICY

### INTRODUCTION

Assembly is an important part of the school day. Each morning, just before playtime, classes gather in the hall to take part in an enjoyable sharing of differing aspects of our lives together.

Assembly acts as a forum for discussion, praise and thoughtful reflection of our daily lives in school, at home, in the local community and wider world. It has an important role to play in the spiritual, social, moral and cultural education of children, and in promoting the British values of democracy, rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs. All of these aspects are covered in an age appropriate way throughout the year as part of our assembly themes as well as religious education and some PSHE (personal, social and health education) themes.

It is a time to learn how and why people gather together to celebrate special occasions and religious festivals throughout the year and to learn about different communities, both local and in the wider world and what belonging to those communities means and entails. Children learn about charities and the world of work as well as finding out about significant events in the locality and wider world. Children are encouraged to actively join in, listen, respond and discuss as appropriate. A wide range of audio visual resources and artefacts are used, as well as drama, role play and visitors.

“Thinking time” will often be set aside for children to reflect on the assembly theme. Through learning about different faiths children will find out that some people use prayer as part of their beliefs. Children will not be taught or asked to pray in our assemblies. Assembly will help to develop an understanding of ritual and symbols and how these are used to make things ‘special’ in different religions, festivals and celebrations as well as in aspects of daily life.

Assemblies are usually taken by the Head teacher or Deputy. On other occasions teachers or other members of staff or invited visitors will lead assembly.

### Organisation

**Timing:** Daily at 10:20 am – 10:35 am

<b>Monday</b>	Birthday assembly and introduction to the week’s theme
<b>Tuesday</b>	Singing assembly – practising songs of the week
<b>Wednesday</b>	Assembly (RE or PSHE /BV /SMSC theme)
<b>Thursday</b>	Assembly (RE or PSHE /BV / SMSC theme)
<b>Friday</b>	Sharing Our Learning and Golden Rules

**Music** will be chosen on a weekly basis to create a listening atmosphere and where possible will reflect the theme of the week. Children are expected to enter and sit quietly without talking, and to listen to the music. The music will be from a variety of styles, artists and countries.

**Songs** will be chosen to reflect the week’s theme or seasons, weather or calendar events.

## **Monday: Birthday Assembly**

Children who have a birthday come to the front. We find out how old they are, sing 'Happy Birthday' and give each child a birthday sticker

- Theme or idea for the week may be introduced,
- Golden Rules – a specific 'Golden Rule' will be discussed and usually linked to a story or theme of the week
- Helpers of the week (playtime and lunchtime) are introduced to the children and reminded of their role

## **Tuesday:**

The Music Coordinator introduces and teaches songs connected with the week's themes as well as fun songs and musical activities (from the LCP Music file). Each class has a song folder so these can be followed up in class.

## **Wednesday and Thursday: RE or PSHE Theme**

The RE or other theme for the week will be generally introduced (refer to the assembly time table) and will include the use of stories, poems, posters, artefacts, videos and visitors where appropriate. PSHE stories and activities relate to the PSHE theme from the scheme of work being taught in classes each term.

## **Friday: Sharing Our Outstanding Learning and Golden Rules Assembly**

Each week the whole school gathers to share effort, work and good behaviour. All adults are expected to attend. One child from each class is chosen to show their achievements, representing the class. This can be from the whole range of the curriculum. Hopefully this will act as an incentive towards appreciation of others, both in work and actions, and will stimulate ideas and independence.

**Golden Rules** - Each week two children are chosen from each class for keeping the Golden Rules particularly well.

Each child sent receives a special sticker and the Golden Rules badge for the whole week. They also get a little 'present' to choose.

## **RECEPTION CLASSES**

**Autumn Term 1** - Children in the reception classes have their own class gathering when they share ideas about caring for others and the world about them.

In **Autumn Term 2** they will begin to attend **Sharing assembly, Birthday assembly** and specific assemblies chosen as appropriate by the Reception class teachers. This will build up to attending all assemblies by the **end of Term 3**. Adults will help them to understand and enjoy assembly as part of their new life in school.

**Tracey Jones – Headteacher**

**Next review September 2018**