



Be kind, work hard and never give up.

## Assembly Policy

<b>Policy Reviewed by Local Advisory Board:</b>	<b>Autumn Term 2025</b>
<b>Date of Next Review:</b>	<b>Autumn Term 2026</b>
<b>Responsible Officer:</b>	<b>Headteacher</b>

### **Vision**

At the heart of every family there are core values, and at Pentland we are no different. Our Pentland values (Hardworking, Confidence, Resilience, Independence and Kindness) ensure that our children learn vital skills to help them achieve whatever they put their mind to. Every day our children strive to **be kind, work hard and never give up.**

### **Aims**

We believe that the benefit to both the whole school community and individual pupils and members of staff of gathering together in assembly on a daily basis include:

- the fostering in pupils of an awareness of universal moral principles of right and wrong, justice and fairness and a proper concern for the fate of others and the world.
- an affirmation and celebration of the values and ethos of the school.
- Opportunities for children to learn about the British Values and how these link to the school values
- the development of an awareness of, and a sense of belonging to, the many different dimensions of the school's community.
- opportunities to experience the sense of gathering for a special purpose; shared experiences that promote thought.
- the promotion of pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development, including opportunities to reflect on practical issues raised by becoming an adult citizen of the world.
- opportunities to consider and reflect upon a variety of situations and issues and make a personal response.
- opportunities to reflect quietly and make an internal response congruent with one's own personal beliefs and background: as explained above this may include religious prayers or other forms of meditation.

### **The Statutory Duty of School**

Pentland Primary School's Assembly Policy pays due regard to statutory collective worship requirements, and has taken account of the guidance offered by the LA through its Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE).

In line with the 1988 Education Reform Act, which states that collective worship should be 'wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character', and in recognition of the fact that there are a variety of other faiths represented within school we base our assemblies on those aspects of Christian teaching that are shared with other faiths. Assemblies are conducted in a manner that is sensitive to the individual faiths and beliefs of all members of the school.

### **Assembly**

Assembly offers opportunities for our children and staff to come together to reflect on the meaning of beliefs and values held in the wider community, concerning matters of ethical and philosophical importance of significance to people. It reflects the breadth of values and beliefs within our school and wider community and promotes spiritual development.

### **Organisation**

Assemblies are planned and delivered by class teachers. Reception and Key Stage 1 pupils attend assembly in the Key Stage 1 hall and Key Stage 2 pupils attend assembly in the Key Stage 2 hall. Each Thursday, assembly takes place in the classroom.

Day	Activity
Monday	School Value – link to event/significant person
Tuesday	Hymn
Wednesday	Story / British Value (select one)
Thursday	Picture News (in class)
Friday	Celebration Assembly

Special themed assemblies also take place during themed weeks, such as Science Week and Black History Month. These events can be found on the assembly calendar shared on OneDrive.

Each assembly must follow the assembly expectations to ensure that they are delivered consistently by each staff member. These steps will guide you through the assembly.

- Staff leading worship needs to set the hall up prior to children arriving to assembly.
- Music to be playing for children to enter the hall.
- Children at the door to welcome other pupils into school.
- Children to stand in straight lines and wait until all children have entered the hall.
- Staff member delivering assembly turns music down and off.
- Staff member to seat children down and maintain expectation of children being quiet.
- Teachers and other staff members are to reinforce the expectations throughout the assembly.
- Deliver the content within the 15-minute session.
- Children to reflect on what they will take away from the assembly – teacher to make sure children are leaving assembly with a message.
- When singing the hymn, children are to be standing up with hands by their sides (unless completing actions).
- When introducing the prayer, say 'If you would like to join in with this prayer, you can place your hands together and say the prayer with me.'
- Play music that was playing as the children entered the hall.
- All children to stay seated until their class is dismissed by staff member leading assembly.
- Children to leave one line at a time with class teacher leading the line.

### **Withdrawal**

In accordance with statutory requirements, every parent and guardian has the legal right to withdraw their child from the daily act of collective worship.

Parents or guardians wishing to exercise this right are asked to make their request in writing and to arrange a meeting with the Headteacher to discuss the matter. This discussion will ensure that the school fully understands the wishes of the parent or guardian and can make appropriate arrangements for the pupil.

The school will respect and support the decision of parents and guardians in this matter, while ensuring that the pupil continues to receive a broad and balanced curriculum.