

# Collective Celebration Policy



**THE LADDER  
SCHOOL**

Redefining alternative provision



Date of Creation	June 2024
Date for Review	In accordance with the Trust Policy Schedule
Member of staff responsible for the policy	Georgina Cooke



Date adopted by the Local Governing Body	June 2024
Signed by Headteacher	
Signed by Chair of Governing Body	

## Version Control

Version	Author	Date	Changes Made
1.0	G. Cooke	June 2024	First Edition
1.1	G. Cooke	January 2026	Minor formatting refinements.

## Statement of Purpose

The aim of Collective Celebration at The Ladder School is to provide the opportunity for students and staff to:

- celebrate together e.g. festivals, school values, individual achievements.
- build a sense of community/foster corporate identity.
- develop a reflective approach to living which sometimes encourages understanding of and invitation to prayer.
- look beyond the physical, material and measurable reflection on human values
- consider spiritual and moral issues and to explore their own beliefs.
- participate and respond, through active involvement in the planning, leading, presentation and celebration; • feel safe in doing any of the above.

Collective Celebration at the Ladder School reflects the broad themes of Fundamental British Values without being distinctively linked to any denomination. However, Collective Celebration, may at times, include material from the main world religions as well as nonreligious views.

## Collective Worship and the Curriculum

Collective Celebration supports all aspects of learning in the classroom. It provides the opportunity for students' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development in line with statutory requirements. To achieve this, it addresses a wide variety of themes and topics; uses diverse



stimuli and resources and provides students with opportunities to celebrate their achievements with each other.

### **The Management of Collective Celebration**

The co-ordination of the Collective Celebration programme is delegated to a senior member of staff who will facilitate different themes throughout the year. The school aims to deliver a half termly celebration event. Teacher, student and, where appropriate, parental views will be collected annually to evaluate the quality and impact of Collective Celebration and to identify ways in which it might be improved.

### **The Organisation of Collective Celebration**

Collective Celebration involves the whole school and takes place periodically throughout the year. The celebrations can include Diwali, Ramadan, Christmas, Remembrance, Harvest Festivals and Chinese/Lunar New Year.

### **Leadership**

Every member of the school staff, students and occasional visitors will be involved in leading celebration events at some point in the school year.

### **Planning Acts of Collective Celebration**

The content of each Collective Celebration session is carefully planned to ensure relevance and suitability for the ages, aptitudes and backgrounds of all students, as well as the balance between various faiths, special occasions and events but there is flexibility to allow the inclusion of current and topical issues.

Visitors who help us to increase the students' awareness, promote respect and raise the esteem of the students are welcome to lead Collective Celebrations at The Ladder School from time to time.

### **The Act of Collective Celebration**

The act of Collective Celebration uses a variety of styles, activities and a range of interactive resources to engage and promote wider thinking. Leaders of Collective Celebration will make decisions about these elements according to what is most appropriate to the content, the ages, aptitudes and the backgrounds of the students. Moments of contemplative reflection may be included in our Collective Celebration.

### **Withdrawal**



Our policy sets out clearly our aspiration that Collective Celebration will be a valuable and valued experience for all members of our school community whatever their backgrounds and beliefs. It is invitational and reflective in nature and never coercive or indoctrinatory. Parents have a right to withdraw their children from all or any involvement in this aspect of school life if requested. We request that those who wish to exercise this right inform the Principal in writing so that school records are accurate. We also appreciate opportunities to speak with parents and staff who have concerns about Collective Celebrations and always keen to develop our understanding of sensitivities and to overcome difficulties where possible. Those students who do not attend Collective Celebrations are supervised by a member of staff and engaged in other suitable activities.

### **Additional Opportunities for Celebration**

Individual student achievements are also celebrated at The Ladder School outside of our whole school Collective Celebrations and may take the form of presentation of certificates, praise postcards sent home or 1 to1 verbal acknowledgement of improvement in a specific area or subject.

