

## Hyndland Secondary School

### Religious Observance policy

Hyndland Secondary School recognises the importance of young people participating and reflecting during periods of religious observance. The young people within Hyndland Secondary School represent a broad spectrum of religious and non-religious beliefs and we offer a programme which both recognises and respects every individual and their belief systems.

Each year during Christmas the young people and staff of Hyndland Secondary School have the opportunity to attend a service within Hyndland parish church led by the school Chaplain. Parents and carers of young people from religious beliefs other than Christianity may request that their young person be withdrawn from this service. Only a written request addressed to the year head will be considered. In such a case the young person will be given the opportunity to reflect or continue with their learning under supervision with the school.

Throughout the school session all young people will participate in religious observance during year group religious observance themed assemblies which will be led by the year head but will heavily involve the work of the young people from a particular year group. The young people will deliver the assembly which will focus on a particular religious observance theme to the rest of the year groups throughout the week.

Hyndland Secondary School provides six opportunities for religious observance per school session as well as the Christmas service. Each year group (S1-S6) have equal time devoted to religious observance and each year group will have the same consistency of delivery with the same theme presented to each year group during assemblies.

The following religious observance themes will be recognised during session 2014/2015:

1. Our Community. Led by Mr B. Mochan and S4 students.
2. Remembrance – Led by Mrs L. Forrester and S6 Students.
3. Holocaust – Led by Mrs L. Forrester and S6 students.
4. Diversity – Led by Mrs L. Edgerton and S1 students.
5. Spring reflections– Led by Mrs L Edgertson and S1 students
6. Equality – Led by Mrs L Edgertson and S2 students

The theme approach allows all young people from the wide range of religious and non-religious beliefs that Hyndland Secondary School represents the opportunity to reflect and also develop thinking skills, positive mental attitudes, compassion for others and an understanding of the community in which they live.

Religious Observance assembly programme

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<b>Rationale</b>	Hyndland Secondary School is a vibrant community of young people, staff, parents/carers and outside partners. It is important that within a community everyone works with, values and respects one and other. This assembly will explore the meaning and the value of community. It will encourage the young people to become active members of Hyndland Secondary School and the wider community.
<b>Title</b>	Our Community
<b>stage</b>	Led by S4
<b>Aim</b>	To highlight the value of community involvement and encourage the young people to participate positively within their community.
<b>Objectives</b>	At the end of the assembly the young people will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Understand the value of communities.</li><li>• Respect and appreciate the work of others.</li><li>• Want to become active members of the community.</li></ul>
<b>Link with Curriculum for Excellence</b>	RME 3-02b RME 4-09b
<b>Introduction</b>	Students to talk about Hyndland Secondary School as a community and give examples of positive activities that already exist within the school that help foster an ethos of community.
<b>Stimulus</b>	Selection of pictures and clips of school initiatives and clubs. Case studies of young people who give something back to the Hyndland Secondary/community.
<b>Guided reflection</b>	Young people asked to consider their role within the school and how they could help others and contribute in a positive manner.
<b>Response and possible next steps</b>	Discussions via RMPS and Personal support Time.
<b>Evaluation</b>	Outcome of class discussions and young people taking extra responsibility within/out with the school in order to become active citizens.

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<b>Rationale</b>	Members of the armed forces have lost their lives or have been left badly injured in wars spanning over one hundred year. It is important that in a civilised, democratic country we take time to reflect and acknowledge the sacrifices that others have made.
<b>Title</b>	Remembrance
<b>stage</b>	Led by S6
<b>Aim</b>	Young people will reflect on lives lost and value the importance of the sacrifices others have made and remember those who are no longer with us.
<b>Objectives</b>	At the end of the assembly the young people will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Have an awareness of conflict and war.</li><li>• Have an understanding of sacrifice and the sacrifices of others (including family and friends).</li><li>• Remember those who are no longer with us.</li></ul>
<b>Link with Curriculum for Excellence</b>	RME 3-09d RME 3-09a RME 4-09b
<b>Introduction</b>	Young people to discuss war, loss and sacrifice.
<b>Stimulus</b>	Selection of pictures and clips of those touched by loss including those involved in conflict.
<b>Guided reflection</b>	Young people to take time to remember those who have lost their lives both in conflict and those close to them.
<b>Response and possible next steps</b>	Discussions in RMPS, Personal Support Time and involvement in Remembrance events.
<b>Evaluation</b>	Young people are able to discuss the theme of Remembrance and take time to think of others.

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<b>Rationale</b>	During world War 2 many millions of Jews were massacred by Adolf Hitler and his Nazi Generals. These crimes against humanity were so barbaric that it is important that the young people of Hyndland Secondary School are made aware of it and the politics of hate that lay behind these acts. As a school community it is important that we never discriminate against others.
<b>Title</b>	Holocaust
<b>stage</b>	Led by S6
<b>Aim</b>	Young people understand the Holocaust in relation to World War 2 and its relevance today.
<b>Objectives</b>	At the end of the assembly the young people will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Understand the Holocaust in relation to World War 2.</li><li>• Understand the reasons behind the Holocaust.</li><li>• Learn the importance of equality and fairness.</li></ul>
<b>Link with Curriculum for Excellence</b>	RME 3-05b 3-09b RME 4-05b
<b>Introduction</b>	Young people to discuss the Holocaust, in terms of numbers and case studies. Set the scene.
<b>Stimulus</b>	Short film from a Holocaust survivor.
<b>Guided reflection</b>	Young people to think of division and disharmony in their life/community and look for solutions.
<b>Response and possible next steps</b>	Young people asked to take positive steps to make Hyndland Secondary School and the communities they live in free from hatred and discrimination. Further discussions with RMPS and Personal Support Time.
<b>Evaluation</b>	Positive steps taken by the young people to engage in discussions and action around awareness raising.

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<b>Rationale</b>	Hyndland Secondary School serves a diverse group of young people who encompass a range of different cultures, religions and lifestyles from across the socioeconomic spectrum. As a school, Hyndland Secondary School is proud of its young people and wants to showcase this and celebrate this diversity.
<b>Title</b>	Diversity
<b>stage</b>	Led by S1 students
<b>Aim</b>	Young people will understand and appreciate the diverse society in which they are part of and do so in an open minded and nurturing way.
<b>Objectives</b>	<p>At the end of the assembly the young people will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Understand the term 'diversity'.</li><li>• Understand and appreciate that other young people both within and outwith Hyndland Secondary School celebrate different cultures, beliefs and lifestyles that may be different from their own.</li><li>• Foster an open minded and tolerant approach to how they view the ever changing world in which they live.</li></ul>
<b>Link with Curriculum for Excellence</b>	RME 4-02b RME 4-06b RME 4-03b
<b>Introduction</b>	Young people to discuss the notion of diversity and show pictures and young people from Hyndland Secondary School who are from various religions, ethnic backgrounds and countries of birth.
<b>Stimulus</b>	Video clip from the Modern Languages department which showcases the wide range of languages spoken from young people who attend the school.
<b>Guided reflection</b>	Young people to take time to think about their approach to others and how they behave towards others from varying backgrounds and cultures.
<b>Response and possible next steps</b>	Young people to discuss Diversity during RMPS and Personal Support Time.
<b>Evaluation</b>	Young people to be asked about the impact of the assembly in focus groups.

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<b>Rationale</b>	The young people of Hyndland Secondary School are supported by their parents/carers, teachers and those within the wider community including family (some of whom may no longer be with us). It is important that during the spring period when many of our young people are making choices regarding the curriculum they wish to follow, sitting exams or moving away from Hyndland Secondary School towards a positive leavers destination that they reflect and think of those who have helped them on their journey.
<b>Title</b>	Spring Reflections
<b>stage</b>	Led by S1 students
<b>Aim</b>	The young people will take time to understand and appreciate the support other give to them both in and out of school.
<b>Objectives</b>	<p>At the end of the assembly the young people will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Take time to think of those who have helped them during their lives.</li><li>• Have time to reflect on those who are no longer with us.</li><li>• Begin to take positive steps moving forward in both affecting their own lives and the lives of others.</li></ul>
<b>Link with Curriculum for Excellence</b>	RME 3-09d RME 3-09b
<b>Introduction</b>	Young people to talk about the people who have made an impact on their lives with PowerPoint pictures.
<b>Stimulus</b>	Slideshow from one student with music showing all of the people who have made an impact on their life from birth to S1.
<b>Guided reflection</b>	Young people encouraged to take time to reflect on those who have helped them on their journey.
<b>Response and possible next steps</b>	Young people to take positive steps in both their own lives and helping the lives of others.
<b>Evaluation</b>	Evaluative exercise during RMPS.

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<b>Rationale</b>	In Hyndland Secondary School everyone is valued and treated equally. Respect, care and compassion permeate the daily work of the school. The caring ethos of Hyndland Secondary School is very evident within classrooms, along corridors and out in social spaces. Equal treatment of the young people, staff and parents/carers is at the forefront of everything we do.
<b>Title</b>	Equality
<b>stage</b>	Led by S2 students
<b>Aim</b>	The young people will understand that everyone within the Hyndland Secondary School community are treated equally.
<b>Objectives</b>	At the end of the assembly the young people will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Understand the meaning of equality.</li><li>• Look at different forms of discrimination.</li><li>• Become familiar with equal opportunities.</li></ul>
<b>Link with Curriculum for Excellence</b>	RME 3-05a RME 4-09a
<b>Introduction</b>	Young people will discuss the meaning of equality.
<b>Stimulus</b>	Young people to show pictures/newspaper headlines which depict discrimination within Scotland/UK and globally.
<b>Guided reflection</b>	Young people to reflect on how they treat others within/ out with the school and how they can be better citizens.
<b>Response and possible next steps</b>	Young people to be an active part of Hyndland Secondary and make their own individual and collective contributions in making it a truly open and welcoming establishment where everyone can succeed.
<b>Evaluation</b>	Equality/HWB questionnaire to be completed during Personal Support Time.