

Collège Français Bilingue de Londres
("CFBL" or the "School")

Worship and Fasting Policy
(including French principle of secularism)

Authorised by:	The Board of Governors of CFBL
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Circulation:	Governors/all staff/volunteers, automatically Staff: on Staff shared drive > Policies Parents on request School Website

CFBL is a non-faith school which welcomes pupils from a variety of backgrounds, religions, beliefs or lack of religion or beliefs. The School does not tolerate any form of discrimination and is committed to ensuring equality of opportunity in line with the Equality Act 2010.

1. Principle of secularism ('laïcité')

The School teaches the French curriculum and thus applies the principle of secularism (*laïcité*) in its curriculum. This means that there is no religious education at the School. However, the subject of religion can be studied for example in various civilisations throughout history as well as modern religions or via school outings.

Worship policy

Collective worship of any religious beliefs is not practised at the School and there are no religious assemblies.

Special provisions

Special provisions can be agreed with the Headteacher for pupils, e.g. for particular religious dietary needs.

2. Fasting

Occasionally some parents may choose for their children to fast temporarily during the school year. The purpose of these provisions is to ensure that:

- The School provides a safe environment for children who wish to fast;
- Proper care of fasting children is maintained, and parents are informed if their child is unwell.

Parents must inform the school in writing if they wish their child to fast. We ask that parents complete a 'fasting permission slip', available from the School reception or at the Vie Scolaire. If a child says that he/she is fasting but the School has not received a permission slip from his/her parents, the child will not be allowed to miss lunch.

Children who are fasting should not be expected to exert themselves physically. Consequently, for Health and Safety reasons, when fasting, pupils:

- will attend Physical Education lessons but will not be expected to participate actively;
- will be encouraged to make use of quiet areas on the playground at lunchtime, in order to conserve their energy.

All children that fast are required to bring an emergency snack with them to school daily. In the rare circumstances of a child becoming distressed or unwell when he or she is fasting, the School will encourage the child to break their fast by eating their emergency snack and having a drink of water.

The School will inform parents immediately if their child who is fasting becomes unwell.

Medical condition

Children with a medical condition that could be complicated by fasting, e.g. diabetes, will not be permitted to fast at school.

Last review by the management: May 2025

RELATED SCHOOL POLICIES:

- Curriculum Policy
- Equality Policy