



Collective Worship Policy

Mr Perry

Date Approved	20 th October 2023
Review Date	Autumn Term 2025
Approved by which committee	F&GP

<i>Admin use only</i>	
Location	
Website	
Learning Platform	
Policies File	
Staff room	
Headteacher's File	
Governor Hub	
Policies Log updated	



Policy on Collective Worship

1 Aims

The aims of collective worship are:

- To provide an opportunity for children to worship God;
- To enable children to consider spiritual and moral issues;
- To enable children to explore their own beliefs;
- To encourage participation and response;
- To develop in children a sense of community spirit;
- To promote a common ethos, with shared values, and to reinforce positive attitudes;
- To teach children how to worship.
- To provide opportunities for participation through events.

2 Collective worship

2.1 We understand worship to be a special act or occasion whose purpose is to show reverence to God. Collective worship involves all members of the school coming together and participating in an assembly. We expect everyone to take an active part in the assembly.

2.2 In line with the School Standards and Framework Act 1998 which builds on the 1988 Education Reform Act: collective worship should be 'wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character.' The majority of our assemblies are based on the teachings of Christ and the traditions of the Christian Church. However, we conduct our assemblies in a manner that is sensitive to the faiths and beliefs of all members of the school.

2.3 While most acts of worship in our school are Christian, we also hold assemblies which reflect the traditions of other religions for example Diwali and Chinese New Year that are represented in the school and the wider community.

3 Organisation of collective worship

- 3.1 We hold a daily act of collective worship. This forms part of each afternoon assembly, which can be either a whole school or an assembly in class.
- 3.2 We conduct assemblies in a dignified and respectful way. We tell children that assembly time is a period of calm reflection. We regard it as a special time, and expect children to behave in an appropriate way. We ask them to be quiet and thoughtful, to listen carefully to the teachings, and to participate fully in prayer and hymns.
- 3.3 The assemblies are usually conducted by members of staff on a rotational basis, but are sometimes led by local clergy or other representatives of local religious groups. Each week the Head Teacher and Deputy Head Teacher lead a rewards assembly.
- 3.4 We take the themes of our assemblies mainly from the traditions of the Christian faith, and we observe the festivals or mark the events of other world religions. Sometimes the themes of our assemblies are related to topics that we teach as part of the school curriculum that can inspire, uplift, celebrate and give a sense of purpose or direction.
- 3.5 Our weekly reward assemblies reflect the achievements and learning of the children and provide an opportunity to reward children for their achievements both in and out of school. They play an important part in promoting the ethos of the school, which is that all children are valued, and all achievements are recognised.
- 3.6 Special assemblies, ceremonies and significant events give children opportunities to participate including leavers' ceremony, charity events or Remembrance Day memorials.
- 3.7 Throughout the year, there are assemblies which parents and carers are invited to attend. We encourage their attendance, as this promotes community spirit, and shows the school and families working together in support of the children's achievements.
- 3.8 Governors' attendance at our assemblies is always welcomed and encouraged.

4 Right of withdrawal

4.1 We expect all children to attend collective worship. However, any parent can request permission for their child to be excused from religious worship, and the school will make alternative arrangements for the supervision of the child during that part of the assembly. Parents and carers do not have to explain or give reasons for their request. This right of withdrawal complies with the 1944 Education Act, and was restated in the 1988 Education Reform Act.

4.2 All members of staff are made aware of children who are to be withdrawn from whole or part of an assembly.

5 Monitoring and review

5.1 Monitoring the policy and practice of collective worship is the role of the school governors.

5.2 This policy will be reviewed at least every two years.

Monitoring and review

This policy is monitored by the Governing Board, and will be reviewed annually.

Signed:

Date:

Title of Policy

