

*“Our school will not be going where the path may lead, but will go instead where there is no path and leave a trail”.*



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# Policy:

# Collective Worship

Adopted: March 2013

Review: Every 3 years

Member of staff responsible: Headteacher

Review Date: Summer Term 2019

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## **Collective Worship Policy**

### **1. Introduction**

At Barrow 1618 we believe that Collective Worship plays a very important role in the life of our school. In this time of stillness and reflection, we come together to share our love of God and celebrate our achievements together. The worship of the school is based on promoting the Barrow values, each inspired by Christian values, which permeate the ethos of the school. As such, the contributions of staff, pupils, church clergy and other visitors are valued highly.

### **2. Aims**

The central aims of Collective Worship at Barrow 1618 are to:

- provide our children with regular opportunities for stillness and reflection so that they can honour and praise God
- promote children’s spiritual, moral, social and cultural development
- celebrate the Barrow values and worth of the school community and all who belong in it, including the sharing of the God-given gifts and talents of our children.
- help children develop and understanding both of the nature and language of worship
- help children develop respect and sensitivity to the beliefs and values of others
- support the broader curriculum through the use of art, music, dance, story, drama and other visual and oral means of communication.
- consider and respond to the needs of others and to foster charitable works
- to be challenging and inspiring
- to develop in children a sense of community spirit

### **3. The Legal Position**

The 1988 Education Reform Act states that collective worship must be on a daily basis for all registered pupils. Furthermore, acts of worship “must be wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character, i.e. reflect the broad traditions of Christian belief.” At Barrow 1618 we have developed a range of themes and topics through which collective worship takes place. Key themes include love, joy, trust, forgiveness, justice and the value of all human life. We believe these themes are clearly Christian in nature but are universal in their application. We recognise that in our school we have children from a variety of faith backgrounds and that many children have no religious background at all. Great care is taken in our collective worship to ensure that all children feel valued and special and that their integrity as human beings is consistently upheld. Parents do have, of course, the right of withdrawal from Collective Worship. Parents who have any concerns about the provision and practice of our Collective Worship are strongly encouraged to contact the Headteacher.

### **4. Context of Collective worship**

Collective Worship at Barrow 1618 is mainly Christian in content, and relates to the age, aptitudes and family backgrounds of our pupils. Festivals of other faiths are acknowledged where appropriate.

Visitors play an important part in the life of our school and regularly contribute to acts of worship. In addition, children and their families/friends are invited to services at All Saints Church in

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Broseley and St Giles’ Church in Barrow including Harvest Festival, Remembrance Sunday and an end of year Celebration Service.

We encourage children to share their views of worship with us or to make suggestions for improvement to worship, to personalise the content as much as we can.

## **5. Organisation**

<b>Day</b>	<b>Act</b>	<b>Led by</b>
Monday	Open the Book/Key Stage Assembly	Open the Book Team/ Class Teachers and Children
Tuesday	In-Class Assembly	Class Teachers
Wednesday	Hymn Singing & Reflection	Mary (a member of the local congregation)
Thursday	Head-teacher Assembly	Head-teacher
Friday	Celebration Assembly	Class Teachers and Children

## **6. Conclusion**

Collective Worship plays a very important role in our school as we seek to develop our children in the skills of reflection and empathy, to encourage and celebrate their talents and to promote their spiritual and moral development.

Although there may be a teaching element within the worship sessions, this is not the primary aim; we believe that worship is a celebration of the created world, our understanding and beliefs about it and God’s activity in it.

### **Approval by Governing Body and Review Date**

This Policy has been formally approved and adopted by the Governing Body at a formally convened meeting of the Curriculum Committee with delegated powers

Adopted on: April 2013 by the Curriculum Committee

Member of staff responsible: Headteacher

Review date: Summer Term 2019