



BUSBRIDGE CE (Aided) JUNIOR SCHOOL

Collective Worship Policy

Learn to love  Love to learn

**This policy was updated by the Governing Body in the summer term 2015
It will be reviewed in the autumn term 2017**

The Rationale for the Development of this Policy

The 1988 Education Reform Act requires all pupils to take part in a daily act of collective worship which should be part of a balanced curriculum promoting the spiritual, moral, cultural and social development of pupils and should be wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian nature. The subsequent DfEE Circular1/94 states that collective worship can take varied forms and that the unique dimensions and opportunities afforded by the school should be explored to the full.

The Church of England foundation of Busbridge CE (Aided) Junior School makes it appropriate for acts of worship to be largely Christian in character. However, on all occasions the integrity and religious background of every pupil is to be respected.

This policy should be read in conjunction with the school's Social, Moral, Spiritual and Cultural Policy and RE Policy.

Aims of Collective Worship

The aims of collective worship at Busbridge Junior School are to:

- Foster an awareness of God's presence and love throughout the school day
- develop community spirit and a shared ethos
- Reinforce shared values which encourage the equality of all individuals, a respect for truth and honesty and care, sensitivity and compassion for others and the world in which we live
- Provide pupils and staff with opportunities to consider and express their responses to spiritual and moral issues through the key elements of: reverence, reflection and celebration
- Provide opportunities to learn about the Christian faith through a variety of media including stories, songs, hymns, artefacts, and visits from members of the local faith communities, festivals and special calendar events.
- Ensure that assemblies are inclusive, educational and spiritual
- provide for a variety of different sized groups including whole school, year group and class based worship
- Promote a positive attitude towards the school community by recognising, praising and encouraging individual and corporate achievement
- Develop positive links with local worshipping communities, especially Busbridge and Hambledon Church.

The Principles of Collective Worship

Collective worship should be pupil-centred and related to pupils' own experiences and concerns. It should acknowledge diversity and pupils should be encouraged to take an active part in acts of worship.

Collective worship should be educational, have a purpose and relate to other curricular activities. Assemblies should be consistent with the aims of Busbridge CE Junior School and advance pupils' learning.

Collective worship should be spiritual and a time for reflection and individual worship.

The Pattern of Worship at Busbridge CE (Aided) Junior School

Planning

Assemblies are planned for both on a termly and weekly basis incorporating a theme that fosters spiritual, cultural, and moral development. Below is a list of themes suggested by the Diocese of Guildford and linked to the Church year:

September- Creation	March- Easter & new life
October- Caring	April- Love
November- Remembrance	May- Spreading the Christian message
December- Advent & Christmas	June- Friendship
January- Epiphany & New Beginnings	July- Special people & holy days
February-Unity	

The school also uses the Values for Life, Church of England Toolbox as a starting point for collective worship. Values explored include Hope, Courage, Friendship, Creativity, Peace, Trust, Forgiveness, Justice, Thankfulness, Compassion, Perseverance, Respect and Reverence. Teachers are encouraged to follow up the assemblies within their weekly RE or PSCH sessions.

Weekly Acts of Worship

Monday	Led by Headteacher
Tuesday	Led by Youth Director or member of the ministry team from Busbridge or Hambledon Church
Wednesday	Singing and praise – led by music and RE leader
Thursday	Staff Led – on rotation and based on focus 'value' for the term
Friday	Celebration and award giving led by Deputy Headteacher or class led assembly

Assemblies usually last for twenty minutes.

In addition the children participate in acts of worship at St John the Baptist Church, Busbridge on a termly basis, celebrating:

- and welcoming the arrival of new pupils in September
- Harvest Festival
- Christmas
- Easter
- The end of term and pupils 'moving on' .

Regular opportunities are also made for acts worship in classrooms and other places in the school including the grounds.

Expectations of an Act of Worship

Assemblies are seen as a time in which we worship as a school family via celebration, reflection, participation, song and prayer to various faith stimuli and the achievements of the children. A worshipful atmosphere is created by:

- encouraging children and staff to come into and leave the assembly hall quietly, hence creating a sense of occasion and reverence
- providing a visual focus such as lighted candle, overhead projector or power point image, artefact or object of interest
- playing music in harmony with the theme at the start and end of the assembly
- Singing a hymn or song appropriate to the theme of the week.

The Law

Parents have the right to withdraw their child from acts of worship.

Arrangements are made for those children who are withdrawn from collective worship. They are given appropriate work and supervised in a classroom by members of staff on a rota basis. In class assembly time these children will be given work to complete, while the rest of the class take part in collective worship.