

SOUTH PETHERWIN CP SCHOOL COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

Agreed on....12.11.15.....

Signed....N Hosking.....Chair of Govs

Signed....T Mills.....Head Teacher

Introduction

South Petherwin CP School is a community school, serving a rural community in an almost totally and mostly nominal Christian area of the south west of England. However, the pupils are not immune from developments and influences in a wider world, through family and personal contacts, the media, and from their education. It is a part of the aims of the school to offer a wide ranging education, to prepare pupils for life not only in their own community but in a wider world.

Legal Requirements

- All pupils must take part in a daily act of collective worship, unless they have been withdrawn from it by their parents.
- Parents have the right to withdraw their children from collective worship. At present no children have been withdrawn.
- As South Petherwin is a community school, collective worship must be 'wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character', that is be within the broad traditions of Christian beliefs, on the majority of occasions.
- Collective worship must be non-denominational in county schools.

Aims of Collective Worship

Aims have been agreed with the governors to be the following:-

- To establish, affirm and celebrate the common and shared values of the school.
- To nurture the identity and nature of the school as a community.
- To develop positive attitudes among the pupils.
- To provide an opportunity for pupils to worship God.
- To enable pupils to come to terms with their own beliefs, values and commitments, and with those of others.
- In short to promote the spiritual, moral, social and cultural developments of pupils.

Worship is understood as an act of collective worship in a county school and can be interpreted very openly and widely as an act which brings a school group to a point where they are able to make a shared, reflective response to a divine being, power, ideal or value of some worth, wholly or mainly within the broad traditions of Christian belief on the majority of occasions.

Collective worship is an essential element in the schools' promotion of the spiritual and moral developments of pupils as required by ERA 1988.

Approaches

Daily worship is provided through the following:-

- Acts of worship in class groups.
- Acts of worship by key stage group assemblies.
- Whole school acts of worship in assembly.

Management

Responsibility for collective worship in South Petherwin CP School lies with the headteacher who leads and organises whole school acts of worship and co-ordinates class and key stage acts of worship.

Methods

There should be a suitable variety of methods for collective worship to enable the experience to be as valid and relevant to the pupils as possible. There will also be a ritual element associated with some of these methods to allow the pupils to benefit from the security and pattern of worshipping together.

These will include the following as is appropriate to the nature of the occasion.

- Music on entry and exit.
- Hymn singing.
- Use of prayers, including the children's own.
- Readings from suitable sources, including the Bible, but also other sources of worth.

Resources

The school maintains a resource base for collective worship in the staffroom to which will be added new material as finance permits.

Recording

All acts of worship should be briefly recorded in the Collective Worship Books noting the date, the leader, the theme/contents. This record may consist of the programme suitably amended to indicate any changes that took place. These records should be kept by key stage leaders, class teachers and the headteacher.

Evaluation

This policy was amended and agreed in Nov 2015. It will be reviewed annually. Its implementation and effectiveness will be monitored by staff, children and RE governor and their evaluation used in the review of the policy.