



Collective Worship Policy

St. Andrew's C of E Primary School

January 2018

Collective Worship Policy

According to section 9 of the 1988 Education Reform Act: "All pupils in attendance at a maintained school shall on each school day take part in an act of collective worship". The law requires that most acts of worship in school are of a "broadly Christian Character". At St Andrew's C of E Primary School, we interpret this as collective worship which is based on the broad principles and values of Christianity and which is appropriate to pupils whatever their background or personal beliefs.

Aims of Collective Worship in our school

Collective Worship is a time of togetherness and sharing for the whole school community. It provides time for children:

- To recognise the importance of Collective Worship time within the school day.
- To reaffirm, interpret and put into practice the values of our school community.
- To worship through prayer and reflection.
- To reflect upon spiritual and moral issues.
- To widen the child's emotional response.
- To value and respect the importance of religious beliefs to those who hold them and where possible, a knowledge of other faiths and cultures.
- To participate and respond in various ways.
- To explore feelings such as awe, wonder, mystery and joy.
- To be a window into the world.
- To involve, as far as possible, families, friends and the local community.
- To celebrate achievements of others in our school community.
- to enable children to explore their own beliefs;
- to encourage participation and response.

Organisation of Collective Worship

Children are led quietly to their places by the class teacher. The children sit in class groups and children in Year 6 sit with the younger children to model good behaviour. It is a legal requirement that all children attend Collective Worship unless their parents have exercised their right to withdraw their children from all or parts of worship under the 1988 Education Reform Act. In the event of this occurring, children are suitably occupied under the supervision of an adult. Staff leading the Collective Worship will welcome the children and Revd Eleanor will light candles to act as a focus for the children's thoughts.

Monday 2.40pm – Mr Harrison

Tuesday Class Assembly- led by class teacher at a time to fit within class timetable.

Wednesday 2.40pm - Revd. Eleanor (all staff are encouraged to attend)

Thursday 2.40pm – Singing assembly Mr Harrison and Mrs Bell.

Friday 2.30pm – Special assemblies- class assemblies/ achievement

Assembly themes

We take the themes of our assemblies from the traditions of the Christian faith and we often reflect the festivals and events of the Christian calendar. The assembly themes link with the themes from Understand Christianity and cover other world religions and global issues. Staff and visiting speakers are given a copy of the assembly themes, and each half term's theme is made clear to children via the display materials. These are also shared with parents and carers via the school newsletter and are published on our school website.

We invite parents to celebration assemblies and our Harvest, Christmas, Easter and end of year services which take place at St Andrew's Church and are led by Revd Eleanor.

What must be included in Collective Worship?

Each assembly must contain an opportunity for pupils to worship. There should be a time to **reflect, respond and revere**

Gathering-Children usually enter the hall to music linked to the assembly theme.

Engaging- which could involve story telling, drama or music. This should be an opportunity for children to engage with the Bible and Christian teaching.

Responding- Through songs and prayer.

Sending-The end of an act of collective worship should be positive to reflect the beginning.

Monitoring- How is this working?

Assemblies are monitored through pupil's response via collective worship response sheets and informally via discussions, as well as through Governor Visits. The Collective worship leader, once a term, meets with a group of children who can represent the school and evaluate their response to assemblies.

Last reviewed: 19.1.18

Date of next review: on or before 19.9.19