

## **Policy for Collective Worship**

### **Introduction**

RE and Collective Worship complement each other but are separate activities within the school. Collective Worship is seen as an important and vital part of our school day.

### **Aims:**

- to foster a sense of fellowship
- to offer pupils opportunities which may lead them to the threshold of worship through stories, poems, prayer, quiet reflection, drama and music
- to encourage a sense of occasion

### **Legal requirements**

The Christian foundation of our school is recognised in collective worship in ways that are appropriate to the ages and background of the pupils. The Christian year gives an annual shape to the worship.

The right of parents to withdraw their children from collective worship is recognised.

### **School Population**

Our school is a Church of England Voluntary Aided School and many parents, on registration forms, state a sympathy with the Christian nature of the school. Some of our children have a regular involvement as members of a Christian Church.

### **Delivery and Organisation**

The headteacher is responsible for ensuring that each pupil experiences an act of collective worship each day. The daily act of worship is led by the headteacher or another member of staff and whenever possible all other members of staff are present.

Community Collective Worship is held once each month during term time. Parents, carers and members of the local community are invited to join us.

Regular visitors including clergy and Governors deliver worship and this is taken into account in our planning. Sometimes our worship takes place in the local Church of St. Mary's, in classrooms or outside.

A programme of themes for worship ensures coherence and avoids repetition. A three year plan is in place.

A Planning and Record book is kept with space for staff to write an evaluation.

Pupils are encouraged to behave in a quiet, thoughtful way during the act of worship thus contributing to a reflective and worshipful atmosphere.

Prayers, readings, music, drama, stillness and silence may all be used to bring pupils to the threshold of worship.

### Equal Opportunities

All children have the opportunity to participate in the daily act of worship.

### Resources

Resources are updated whenever possible and INSET provision made. Resources for use in worship include the Bible, posters, books of stories and prayers which are kept in the teachers' resource section. Music is used to create a quiet, reflective atmosphere and a "Worship table" is set up to provide a focus. Use can be made of the Resource Library at Church House and Kedleston Road.

Display boards in the hall focus on themes for RE, PSHE and Collective Worship.

### Evaluation

Time is allocated at staff meetings to reflect on our worship and to decide if our aims have been addressed. An opportunity to evaluate is provided in the record book.

### Policy Review

This policy was reviewed by staff in February 2013, reviewed by the Teaching and Learning Committee in March 2013, and approved at Governors' meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> March, 2013.

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