



# Collective Worship Policy

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PARTNERSHIP OF SCHOOLS

The Education Reform Act 1988 requires all children in our school to attend a daily act of Collective Worship. It is the responsibility of the Head Teacher, after consultation with the Local Governing Body, to arrange for this to take place. Parents may choose to have their child withdrawn from Collective Worship and it is the responsibility of the school to arrange supervision for any child withdrawn.

The Collective Worship should be broadly Christian in character. The Collective Worship should reflect the broad traditions of Christian belief, but should not be denominational, doctrinaire or resemble a church service. Schools can reflect the religious backgrounds in their communities and material/themes from traditions other than Christianity will be included. Our values form the basis of all assemblies and these are the foundations of all faiths.

## OUR APPROACH

We interpret these traditions through several broad themes with many cross-curricular links. These themes contain religious concepts and attitudes central to the life of Jesus Christ and the Christian church as well as many aspects of life and experience.

## CONTENT

The thematic content is carefully planned, so that it is interesting and relevant to the experience, social and cultural background of all our children. The children are involved and participate as much as possible.

Collective Worship is an important means by which the collective values and ethos of the school can be celebrated. These values provide a framework for the children's spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.

## OPPORTUNITIES

Collective Worship provides opportunities for the children to:

- ◆ Consider spiritual and moral issues
- ◆ Explore their own beliefs
- ◆ Actively participate and respond
- ◆ Develop a sense of community
- ◆ Share in promoting the values and ethos of the school
- ◆ Promote positive attitudes and celebrate achievement

## PLANNING

Collective Worship follows the cycle of School values, the RE theme of festivals and significant events and is developed over a half term so that it is broad, balanced, relevant to the children and appropriate to the needs of the school community.

It is the responsibility of the RE Leader to plan for Collective Worship in collaboration with the Headteacher/Head of School.

## DELIVERY

Collective Worship takes place daily during Assemblies at 10.30am. Assemblies are as follows:

|                  |                              |
|------------------|------------------------------|
| <b>Monday</b>    | <b>Whole School Assembly</b> |
| <b>Tuesday</b>   | <b>Whole School</b>          |
| <b>Wednesday</b> | <b>Class Assembly</b>        |
| <b>Thursday</b>  | <b>Singing</b>               |
| <b>Friday</b>    | <b>Golden Assembly</b>       |

All Collective Worship is for the whole school, except Nursery. Children should arrive promptly and quietly in the hall. Collective Worship will begin and end on time. Children exit quietly from the hall and go straight out to play afterwards.

## A 'SPECIAL TIME'

The children are encouraged to view Collective Worship as a 'special time' in the day, which they look, listen and reflect together as a school community. This is promoted by appropriate music to create an atmosphere and by the content of the session. Towards the end of the time, there is an opportunity for the children to sit quietly and reflect on what has been shown and talked about. Lighting a candle or looking at a special picture or object may encourage this.

The content is made as interesting as possible by having a variety of stimuli (pictures, objects, story props etc) and by using story, drama, songs etc and the children are encouraged to lead and participate. This should make a significant contribution to pupils' spiritual and moral development.

Collective Worship is given a high profile through.

## **Alderwood Values:**

|                  |                                  |
|------------------|----------------------------------|
| <b>September</b> | <b>Drive &amp; Determination</b> |
| <b>October</b>   | <b>Creativity</b>                |
| <b>November</b>  | <b>Respect</b>                   |
| <b>December</b>  | <b>Empathy</b>                   |
| <b>January</b>   | <b>Kindness</b>                  |
| <b>February</b>  | <b>Resilience</b>                |
| <b>March</b>     | <b>Confidence</b>                |
| <b>April</b>     | <b>Positivity</b>                |
| <b>May</b>       | <b>Collaboration</b>             |
| <b>June</b>      | <b>Individuality</b>             |
| <b>July</b>      | <b>Responsibility</b>            |

Additional Themes

September:

October:

*(Diwali (Hindu), Harvest Festival)*

November:

*(Guru Nanak's Birthday (Sikhism))*

December:

*(Christmas, Advent)*

January:

*(New Year, Chinese New Year)*

February:

*(Shrove Tuesday, Lent, Holi (Hindu), Purim (Jewish))*

March:

*(Ramadan (Muslim))*

April:

*(Easter, St Georges Day, Passover (Jewish))*

May:

*(Vesak (Buddhist), Pentecost (Jewish))*

### **Monitoring, evaluation and review**

The Board of Trustees will assess the implementation and effectiveness of this policy. The policy will be promoted and implemented throughout all Trust schools.

This Policy will be reviewed by the Board of Trustees on a 3-yearly cycle.

Adherence to the policy will be monitored by the School's Local Committee.

|                         |                   |
|-------------------------|-------------------|
| Policy Reviewed:        | Summer term 2021  |
| Aligned for:            | Alderwood Primary |
| Other related policies: |                   |
| Next Review:            | Summer Term 2024  |