



Chantry Community Primary School

Collective Worship Policy

January 2019

Collective Worship Policy

The Collective Worship Policy at Chantry Community Primary School is written to take account of statutory requirements and the guidance offered by the Local Authority through its SACRE.

In line with the 1988 Education Reform Act, which states that collective worship should be 'wholly or mainly of a Christian character' we base the majority of our assemblies on aspects of Christian teaching. Assemblies are always conducted in a manner that is sensitive to the individual faiths and beliefs of all members of the school.

Our Definition of Collective Worship

Collective Worship is a time when the whole school or groups within the school come together to consider and reflect on common concerns, issues and interests including our Chantry Values. It offers all pupils the opportunity to worship through engaging in relevant, meaningful experiences and provides opportunities for their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.

We understand worship to be a special act or occasion whose purpose is to show reverence to God. Collective worship involves all members of the school coming together and actively participating in an assembly.

Aims

Collective Worship contributes significantly to the ethos of Chantry Community Primary School. It is our aim that it is a time when the school community can:

- share common values
- celebrate achievements and special times together
- develop a community spirit
- explore the world in which we live
- support each other

We also believe collective worship contributes to the development of all pupils by providing opportunities to:

- worship God
- reflect
- consider spiritual and moral issues
- explore their own beliefs
- develop their own spirituality
- reflect on the direction of their lives
- reinforce positive attitudes
- participate and respond
- reflect on what it means to be human
- consider the wonders and worries of the world

The Contribution of Collective Worship to the Curriculum

Collective Worship is separate from Curriculum time although it will at times, feature other areas of the curriculum. This will enhance the experiences of pupils by helping them to reflect on the work done in class. Collective Worship will also enrich the curriculum through its consideration of subjects from different perspectives.

To ensure that Collective Worship provides opportunities for pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development it will address a wide variety of themes and topics, use diverse stimuli and resources and provide opportunities for pupils to respond on their own level.

The Leadership of Collective Worship

The Headteacher will plan, monitor and evaluate Collective Worship at Chantry. All teachers and Senior Leaders will be involved in leading acts of worship during the year.

Planning Acts of Collective Worship

The Collective Worship themes for each term will be planned by the Headteacher. These may be altered weekly to include special events or current issues.

Individual acts of worship will be planned by the staff leading them. The content should be considered carefully, to ensure relevance and suitability for the age group involved taking into account pupils' backgrounds.

The Act of Collective Worship

A variety of styles and activities are suitable for Collective Worship however the content must be sufficiently stimulating to evoke an individual response. This may not be visual but opportunity must be given to express this through reflection and prayer.

If announcements are given during worship they must, positive or if not, be given at the beginning or the end of assembly with a defined break between them and the act of worship.

The law now allows for the worship to take place in any place or any grouping. Not all of the pupils have to be together at one time which, allows for worship to take place as a whole school, a key stage, a year group or within a classroom. It should however be appropriate to the age and background of the pupils.

Sometimes local clergy, or other representatives of local religious groups, are invited to conduct Collective Worship. While the majority of acts of worship in our school are Christian, we also hold assemblies that reflect other religious traditions.

Collective Worship at Chantry Community Primary School

In line with the guidance we hold a daily act of collective worship. This takes place in whole school assemblies twice a week, key stage assemblies twice a week and in a class assembly once a week.

We conduct assemblies in a dignified and respectful way. We show pupils that assembly time is a special time of calm reflection. Pupils should behave in an appropriate listening carefully and participating fully in prayers and songs. We create an appropriate atmosphere by using music and sometimes candles or other objects that act as a focal point.

In addition to assemblies, classes may have a quiet reflection time at the end of the school day when they recite a prayer. Year Six pupils are encouraged to learn the Lord's Prayer. The purpose of this is to ensure the class comes together for a moment of quiet reflection before ending the school day.

Withdrawal

Our acts of worship will be conducted in a manner as sensitive and inclusive as possible to ensure all children feel comfortable to attend.

If for any reason a parent asks to withdraw a child from Collective Worship or from parts of it, this must be made in writing to the Headteacher.

Signed..... Headteacher

Signed..... Chair of Governors

Date.....