



Collective Worship Policy

Approved Governors May 2017

Review May 2019

‘Our children, our future’

All maintained schools provide daily collective worship for registered pupils (apart from those who have been withdrawn by their parents). The head teacher is responsible (under the School Standards and Framework Act 1998) for arranging the daily collective worship after consulting with the governing body. Daily collective worship must be wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character.

Philosophy

Calmore Infant School is a Community school. Worship is therefore an important part of the school day as it gives us the opportunity to come together as a community and to develop a sense of unity. It is a time to reflect on something special.

The staff and governing body of Calmore Infant School believe that children’s understanding of religious worship should be developed through a daily gathering, with a sense of occasion. Collective Worship provides opportunities to promote the aims and ethos of the school and for our children’s social, spiritual, moral and cultural development.

As a school we aim to:

- take into consideration the family background, ages and abilities of the pupils when determining the precise nature of daily collective worship
- wherever possible, promote a sense of awe and wonder
- offer time for reflection through a variety of personal and collective prayers. These might include praise, seeking forgiveness, asking on behalf of self and others or quiet reflection
- offer insights into Christianity, and other faiths, cultures and traditions
- contribute to community cohesion within and across different faiths
- develop relationships through respect and acceptance, discouraging bullying and Discrimination
- use collective worship to celebrate achievement and give thanks
 - Use the time to re affirm the values of the school

- link collective worship to the delivery of the PSHCE curriculum and the local authority –

Living Difference 2 syllabus for RE

- make use of sacred writings, stories, poetry, art, music and artefacts
- ensure that collective worship supports the five key outcomes of 'Every Child Matters'
- provide information for parents on Collective Worship (school prospectus) , including their statutory rights
- monitor and evaluate the quality and impact of Collective Worship taking place drawing on the views of pupils, parents, staff and other providers
- Offer a planned annual programme of themes for Collective Worship published to all staff and other providers, with appropriate guidance

Planning

- Collective worship is an integral part of our RE and PSHE teaching.
- The themes for worship link to holy days and festivals, SEAL themes and the school values.
- A half term overview for collective worship is planned by the head teacher and RE Leader. Informal daily planning is then undertaken by the individual leading the collective worship.
- Music and Hymns are chosen by the individual leading the collective worship.

Delivery

- A collective worship display presents the theme for the week or weeks and provides a focal point for the children
- Music is played to signify the beginning and end of the Collective Worship, as children arrive in and leave the hall
- A candle is sometimes lit at the beginning of the Collective Worship to signify the start of Worship
- Each gathering consists of a song, a prayer, time for reflection and an activity, story or poem
- Celebration Assemblies are held weekly

Class Assemblies are led termly in YR 1 and 2 and twice a year in YrR

For special occasions the school visits St Anne's Church e.g. Easter, Advent and Leavers service.

Participation

- Year One and Two children take part in all daily acts of worship
- Reception children begin by attending one of five daily acts of worship during the first term, and build up during the Spring and first Summer half term to attending all, as staff feel is appropriate for that cohort of children
- Teachers attend collective worship except for one assembly per week designated for one to one or small group work with children and unless they are out of class, for example on mentoring, subject leader or Planning, Preparation and Assessment (PPA) time
- Teachers are allowed the right to withdraw from Collective Worship, not assemblies, on grounds of religious opinions or practice
- Members of the school community are always welcome to join us
- We seek to be an inclusive community however we respect the right of parents to withdraw their children from Collective Worship. Withdrawal from Collective Worship will only be made following parental discussion with the Head Teacher and followed by written confirmation of withdrawal from parents to the Head Teacher
- Children withdrawn from worship may read in the library or participate in supervised private worship but no additional work will be set during this time

To be reviewed May 2019