



## COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY.

### 1. KEY PRINCIPLES

- ) As a school we follow the requirements of the 1988 Education Reform Act.
- ) Collective Worship is an integral part of the broad and balanced curriculum to which all our children are entitled.
- ) Collective Worship at Foundry Lane Primary School underpins all aspects of school life.
- ) Collective Worship is open to all staff and pupils and no assumptions are made about their personal commitment.
- ) Whilst awareness of other religious traditions and beliefs may be raised, we recognise that the proper place for fuller exploration of these issues is in religious education.
- ) We understand worship at school to include the following elements, giving thanks, reflection, silence, experiencing awe and wonder, showing reverence, prayer and communicating feelings.

### 2. AIMS

To develop

- ) Social and moral values
- ) Spiritual awareness
- ) Knowledge of Christian values, beliefs, celebrations and patterns of worship
- ) Awareness of other beliefs, traditions, cultures, and patterns of worship.

To provide a space in time which

- ) Allows a pause for reflection and stillness during the busy and hectic school day.
- ) *Give children an understanding of how it feels to experience awe and wonder.*
- ) Provides an opportunity to mark and celebrate special occasions and achievements.
- ) Facilitates the development of a sense of community, belonging, sharing *and giving thanks.*
- ) Encourages pupils to learn how to be part of large and small gatherings, as well as offering opportunities to perform and respond to stimuli.
- ) Allows for celebration and reflection of things held to be of worth
- ) Presents an occasion to worship God or for personal thought and reflection.

### 3. PRACTICES AND PROCEDURES.

- ) The majority of acts of Collective Worship will be based on the broad principles of Christianity.
- ) The majority of themes explored will be appropriate to pupils whatever their background or personal beliefs, Christian or otherwise.
- ) An act of Collective Worship should provide opportunities to;
  - o Focus on a particular issue by providing a stimulus
  - o Encourage time for reflection on the theme
  - o Respond in a variety of ways such as singing, movement, quiet times for thought and reflection
- ) If suitable for the particular context the time of reflection should be introduced by asking the children 'to put their hands in their laps and close their eyes if it helps them to concentrate....'
- ) Develop a sense of reverence. We aim to achieve this over a period of time through the recognition, affirmation and celebration of the worthiness of those values held to be of central importance to our community

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- ) The overall themes for Collective Worship are listed in appendix I. These are on a four year cycle with an annual review of the next year's themes. The themes for collective worship provide a balance between Aspects of community, wonders of the world, Religious themes including festivals, personal qualities, Relationships, The Environment and other areas of interest relevant to a particular year. *There are planned links between some of the themes and the PSHE curriculum.*
- ) There is a need to be flexible at times to respond to unexpected issues in the World and the school community.
- ) The pattern for Collective Worship and Assembly is listed *in the staff handbook*.
- ) Acts of Collective Worship should not compromise or offend any members of our school community. However parents/ carers do have the right to withdraw their child from Acts of Collective Worship. Children who are withdrawn from Collective Worship at their parents requests will be supervised by a teacher or an LSA if this is possible. Otherwise the parent / carer will be asked to supervise the child at the appropriate time. However, the class teacher or the headteacher should discuss the matter sensitively with the parent / carer who wishes to exercise this right to withdraw their child. With the parent / carers agreement, a child could be present during Collective Worship but not actually take part in it. Such a possibility would obviously need to be discussed.
- ) Administrative and Disciplinary matters should, as far as possible be separated from the Acts of Collective Worship.
- ) A variety of resource material is available *in the staffroom* for any member of staff to use.
- ) The Leadership team and Governors will monitor the content and quality of Acts of Collective Worship.

#### **4. TIME ALLOCATION**

Currently 10 minutes per day with additional time from Community time allocations and movement time totalling 15 minutes each day with the exception of Monday and Friday – 20 minutes when the whole school comes together.

**REVIEW: May 2017**  
**NEXT REVIEW: May 2019**