



Castleton C of E Primary School

Collective Worship Policy

November 2017

Introduction

Collective worship plays an important role in the daily life of our school. As a Church of England Voluntary Controlled school we define collective worship as worship that reflects the broad traditions of Christian belief. We consider it be a vital opportunity for our children to participate in shared experiences of celebration, praise and thanksgiving to God. Collective worship forms an integral part of our aim to promote the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of each of our children.

Aims

We consider Christian values to underpin the whole ethos of the school.
The aims and purpose of collective worship are:

- To encourage our children's natural sense of wonder of God's creation and to develop their qualities of curiosity, celebration and gratitude which form the foundation of worship.
- To promote our Christian ethos through sharing of Christian Values with the children and give them the skills they need to demonstrate these in all areas of their lives.
- To enable children to consider spiritual and moral issues whilst exploring their own beliefs.
- To encourage pupil participation and response.
- To develop in our children a sense of community spirit and give thanks for the achievements within the school.
- To celebrate and respond to Christian festivals and symbolism.
- To provide the opportunity experience stillness and quiet.
- To provide support to the children as they develop their own understanding and spirituality.

Statutory Requirements

Collective worship at Castleton C of E Primary School complies with the legal requirements as set out in the 1988 Education Reform Act. The law states the 'Collective worship must be wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian Character', which means that it reflects the broad traditions of Christian belief.

Collective Worship at Castleton C of E Primary School is an inclusive activity. Parents do have the right to withdraw their children from this element of the school day. Parents who have any concerns about the provision and practice of our Collective Worship are strongly encouraged to contact the headteacher.

Context of Collective worship

Our acts of worship vary daily. Our pattern is set out below:

Monday	-	Whole school, headteacher
Tuesday	-	Whole School, visitor
Wednesday	-	Whole School, headteacher
Thursday	-	Whole School, class teacher
Friday	-	Whole school end of week celebration worship.

Visitors play an important part in the life of our school and regularly contribute to acts of worship. We aim to use a creative approach to the daily act of worship using a range of delivery techniques including: stories, music, slides, art, poems, pictures and posters and DVDs all of which we hope contribute to a stimulating and thoughtful time for our children.

The children are encouraged to take an active role in planning Collective Worship and contribute ideas, select music and write prayers on a regular basis.

Our programme for collective worship takes into account the Christian festivals throughout the year with appropriate celebrations and worship planned.

Collective worship is shared with the wider church family with services in the local church of Castleton, St Edmunds, at regular points throughout the year, celebrating Christian calendar events and to celebrate the achievements of the school.

Resources

As a staff we agreed to adopt the resource 'Values for Life' and use it as the basis for planning a programme of Collective Worship themes based on Christian values.

Planning and Review

Staff plan the programme of Collective Worship at dedicated staff meetings. Review of provision to date plays an important part of this process.

Equal Opportunities

The staff and Governors are committed to ensuring that every child in the school will derive some benefit from collective worship, whatever their gender, ethnicity, physical or mental abilities. Every attempt is made, therefore, to ensure that materials used are appropriate to a range of abilities, aptitudes and interests and reflect the multicultural society we live in.

Monitoring and Evaluating

Evaluation of the effectiveness of the Collective Worship Policy will be done through:

- An annual audit through staff, parent and pupil questionnaires
- Giving the children opportunities to express their thoughts on Collective Worship
- Involvement of Governors in the monitoring and evaluating of the work in school

Signed: Headteacher **Date:**.....

Signed: Chair of Governors **Date:**.....

Review: Autumn 2020

Reviewed: Autumn 2017

Policy Developed: Autumn 2014