



## Policy for Collective Worship

**Adopted: October 2007**

**Review: Autumn 2011**

### Aims

We believe that collective worship contributes to the ethos and values of the school by providing a spiritual occasion and a time for the school community to reflect upon major issues and big questions and how they affect their day to day life.

### Our School Statement of Ethos

Recognising its historic foundation, the school will preserve and develop its religious character in accordance with the principles of the Church of England and in partnership with the Church at parish and diocesan level.

As a school we aim to explore religious and other beliefs, values and practises which are part of the multi-cultural world in which we live, so that children develop a knowledge and understanding of how beliefs and values of religions and philosophies influence the lives of individuals, families, groups and communities, local and global.

We promote the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of our children at school through a broad and balanced curriculum, promoting Christian values through the experiences offered to all our children.

We believe the aim of collective worship is:

- to give all who take part the opportunity to develop an awareness of other people and care of the world we live in, and an awareness and understanding of God;
- to provide an opportunity for spiritual growth;
- to create a space where feelings of awe and wonder can be shared;
- to provide an opportunity to celebrate and share achievement.

### The School's Intentions

The school understands that worship is an opportunity for all who are invited to participate in the spiritual dimension of life.

We intend to:

- implement our collective act of worship with a broadly Christian character;
- raise awareness of other faiths through the RE curriculum;
- where appropriate, use other world religions to illustrate points in collective worship;
- invite staff to be involved in this aspect of school life;

- involve and encourage the use of skills in the community by inviting members of various local churches and charity organisations and other community members to lead collective worship.

### Implementation

A two year cycle of themes has been developed to include aspects of the Anglican calendar, the curriculum topics in school, general events in school and scope for exploring more specific themes as they present themselves e.g. changes in family circumstances, national/international emergencies, charity appeals and personal achievements. The collective worship co-ordinator has the responsibility at the beginning of each term to produce the assembly timetable taking into account the basis (as indicated above) for themes and assigning individuals to lead assemblies.

A simple format has been devised to record and evaluate worship in school.

### Staff Roles and Responsibilities

The co-ordinator will oversee the running of the policy and monitor the use of themes to ensure continuity. The co-ordinator will ensure that adequate resources are available and that a budget separate to RE is available.

### Success Criteria

- The use of a range of strategies which are used regularly to engage the children's interest e.g. story, drama, use of artefacts, participation, singing, poetry, pictures;
- The children are comfortable with silence for reflection;
- The children will participate enthusiastically, willingly and freely;
- The children know and can say what assembly (collective worship) is all about;
- The children have an opportunity to make a worshipful response.

### Leaders of Collective Worship

These may include

- Members of staff
- Clergy and parish members from All Saints Church
- Representatives of different faith communities
- Representatives of charities and community organisations.