



Bletchingdon Parochial C of E (VA) Primary School

. **“Learn to Believe – Aspire to Achieve”**

At Bletchingdon Parochial CE (VA) Primary School we believe that everyone will reach their true potential. Through supportive, yet challenging teaching, we inspire our children to learn.”

Love honesty courage respect unity

A Policy Statement for Collective Worship_w

The Collective Worship Policy at our school pays due regard to statutory requirements, and has taken account of the guidance offered by the LEA and diocese.

The Collective Worship Policy is consonant with the philosophy and aims of the school

Definition of “Collective Worship”

This means that the school community is “collected” together. Children and adults come from a variety of backgrounds and we try to ensure that everyone feels part of this time together.

The Value of Collective Worship

We value our time of collective worship. This is a time when the school, normally the whole school, gather together to spend time worshipping and reflecting. We see collective worship as having a significant benefit to both individuals and the school itself:

For individuals:

- developing the whole child
- develop an understanding of Christian and other faiths
- appreciate the changing seasons of the Anglican Church
- explore their own beliefs and spirituality
- develop confidence in their communication and leadership roles through participation and leading worship (for older pupils)
- consider spiritual and moral issues
- encouraging awareness and development of our school values
- feel valued and part of a school community

For the school:

- develop the Christian ethos of our school community
- help strengthen our school community.
- take on joint responsibility for develop a community spirit

- a time for sharing and celebrating the gifts and talents and special times God has given to us.
- develop collective awareness of the aims and values of our school and how they can be developed.

Planning Acts of Collective Worship

The content of all acts of Collective Worship will be considered carefully, to ensure relevance and suitability for the ages, aptitudes and backgrounds of all pupils.

A Termly overview of themes ensures continuity and progression but with flexibility to allow the inclusion of current and topical issues. Monitoring and evaluations through questioning and auditing are carried out with input from the pupils (sharing what they remembered and enjoyed about the assembly).

The Organisation of Collective Worship

As we see collective worship as important we normally start the day with the whole school meeting together. Those Reception age pupils who are deemed 'ready' to attend collective worship will have the opportunity to join us when they have settled into school. This may take place in the autumn or spring terms. Children in the foundation stage will be given regular age-related opportunities to reflect or pray. A member of the Clergy may lead collective worship.

Worship is led by the Clergy one day a week (on most weeks) and other days by staff members (with pupils taking various roles as appropriate). At least once a term (normally at significant points in the year) collective worship will be held in the local parish. The local community is invited to our Harvest and Easter Services.

Reflective assemblies (led by a teacher) take place on the last Thursday of the month. They allow children to consider our Big Q, school values and encourage children to think of others – the tsp model is used when writing prayer cards.

The Act of Collective Worship

A variety of worship styles are seen in the assemblies, this reflects the range of worship styles in Churches. Some worships may be led by the pupils themselves, others may include drama, short video clips, to help reinforce the theme, response reading and the development of a 'comfortable silence' when everyone can have time for reflection. All worships will include music (again a range may be experienced, from traditional hymns to modern active praise songs) and a prayer. The Bible will be referred to in most worships.

See analysis of Pupil Questionnaire for feedback

Reviewed January 2017

..... Headteacher

..... SIAMS Governor

..... Date