



## Collective Worship policy

‘Let all that you do be done in Love’ 1 Corinthians 16:14

Collective Worship at Arnside National School takes place daily in accordance with the provisions of the Schools Standards and Frameworks Act, 1998.

### Aims

- To provide opportunities for various forms of worship for children and staff.
- To develop an understanding of the Bible and its place in the Christian faith.
- For children to grasp a deeper understanding of our Christian star qualities on which are school ethos is based.
- To celebrate Christian festivals and special occasions together, reflecting the rich diversity of Christian traditions locally and around the world.
- To enable children to have time to explore prayer, meditation and the use of silence for stilling.
- To encourage the children to be invested in members of the school community and to show tolerance and respect for each other.
- To celebrate the achievements of groups and individuals both inside and outside of school.
- To experience Christian Worship and to be able to participate in it with understanding.
- Worship should be a safe place where children are happy to ask questions and participate in discussions.

## Planning

Daily Collective Worship is as follows:

|           |                     |              |
|-----------|---------------------|--------------|
| Monday    | Themed Worship      | Whole school |
| Tuesday   | Music Worship       | Whole school |
| Wednesday | School Church       | Whole school |
| Thursday  | Bible Worship       | Key Stages   |
| Friday    | Celebration Worship | Whole school |

Themed Worship is based around our Christian star quality that is the focus for that fortnight. Other national and international events may be covered also. This act of Worship takes place at the start of the day and is led by the Headteacher, allowing him to welcome all the children to the start of a new week.

Bible worship is planned annually and is consistent throughout the school. It follows the Christian calendar of events or is linked to one of our Christian star qualities. In KS1 this will follow the format of listening to a Bible story before discussing its relevance to our lives. In KS2 children will use their own Bible to find and read certain passages before a class discussion.

Wednesday Worship consists of the children attending School Church. School Church takes place at St James Church and is led by members of the clergy. The community is invited to join the children for this act of worship. On Tuesdays, we participate in Collect Worship through music. This consists of listening to music we may not have heard before and learning and singing songs.

The purpose of Celebration Worship is for the whole school to join together and celebrate our achievements both in and out of school. This is also when awards are given out to children for their perseverance, hard work or behavior towards others. Every half term we hold celebration worship in St James church and family members are invited to join us. Special star quality awards are given out and one class celebrates what they have been learning by sharing it with us.

All children are encouraged to lead Child Led Worship at some point throughout the year. The children work in small groups to present an act of worship to their peers that is based around one of our Christian star qualities or school values.

## Format

All Collective Worship follows the same pattern

- Music to enter and exit to.
- The candle is lit, and children are invited to respond to the phrase *“This is the day the Lord has made.”* With *“We will rejoice and be glad in it.”*
- Learning and response
- Time for stillness/reflection
- Invitation to pray.
- Ending with the words *“Go in God’s peace, We go in peace, Go in God’s joy, we go in joy, go in God’s love, We go in love.”*
- Exit in a calm manner

Worship time at Arnside National School is invitational. Children may sit and observe, join in partly or fully as they see fit.

Our worship times reflect the achievements and learning of the children. Collective worship plays an important part in promoting the ethos of the school, which is that all the children aspire, achieve, believe and most importantly all that we do is done in love.

Parents have a legal right in accordance with the Education act 1996 to withdraw their child from Collective Worship. As we feel that collective worship is crucial to the essence of Arnside School, we ask parents to discuss this with the Headteacher before arrangements are made.

The staff regularly discuss the content of Collective Worship under the guidance of the clergy. The Governing body are also consulted. Each class has a collective worship scrap book which thoughts and ideas from worship time are added to. These are used to evaluate and reflect upon collective worship. The Ethos team also contributes ideas for themes and formats.