

## Collective Worship Policy

The policy document outlines the aims, organisation and management of Collective Worship at Brookside Primary School.

### Definition of Collective Worship

Collective Worship is a time when the whole school, or groups within the school meet together in order to consider and reflect on common concerns, issues and interests. It offers all pupils an opportunity to worship and engage in relevant, meaningful experiences and to nurture their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.

At Brookside Primary School, Collective Worship is regarded as a special time in the day for calm reflection and engaging enquiry. We understand worship to be a special act or occasion that demonstrates a reverence to God which is in line with the 1988 Education Reform Act which states that Collective Worship should be "wholly or mainly of a broad Christian character". However, we conduct our worship in a manner that is sensitive to the individual faith and beliefs of all members of the school. Collective Worship at Brookside Primary School is set within the context of Assemblies. Assemblies can involve all members of the community coming together and participating in whole school worship or in class groups. Parents and Governors can be invited to attend assemblies such as the "Positive Comments" Awards Ceremony. This promotes and strengthens the wider school community working together to celebrate the children's achievements.

### Aims

Collective Worship is a time of togetherness and sharing for the whole school community. It provides time for children:

- To enable children to worship God
- To enable children to consider, enquire and reflect upon spiritual, moral, social and cultural issues
- To enable children to explore their own beliefs
- To encourage participation and response
- To develop in children a sense of community spirit

- To promote a common ethos with shared values and to reinforce positive attitudes
- To teach children how to worship
- To promote racial/cultural harmony and respect for all; combatting prejudice and discrimination
- To celebrate personal achievements and those of others

### Organisation

Collective Worship involves members engaging and participating in an assembly. Themes of our worship are based upon the traditions of the Christian faith, reflecting upon festivals and events in the Christian calendar and promoting the core values of Secrets of Success. Sometimes the themes of our assemblies reflect and build upon topics taught in the National Curriculum.

Collective Worship is celebrated every day in the following way:

Monday - Whole school Assembly (Led by Senior Leader/s)

Tuesday - Key Stage 1 Assembly (Led by KS1 staff)

Wednesday - Class Assemblies

Thursday - Key Stage 2 Assembly (lead by Deputy head)

Friday - Celebration Assembly (Led by Senior Leader/s)

### Right of withdrawal from Collective Worship

Every effort is made to show sensitivity towards personal faiths and to include all pupils and staff. However, any parent can request permission for their child to be excused from attending religious worship and the school will make alternative arrangements for the individual during the period concerned. A record is kept of all children who request to be withdrawn from collective worship.

### Monitoring and Review

It is the role of the Governing Body to monitor and review the policy and practice of collective worship at the school. There is a named governor responsible for liaising with the Head teacher about collective worship.