

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

Name of Responsible Manager / Headteacher:	Mr JDF Martin
Policy Owner:	Sonal Finn/ Charlotte Edwards
Date of Policy Review by Governing Body:	April 2022
Date of last Policy Review:	December 2025
Date of next Policy Review:	December 2026

At Castle Hill Primary School all members of our school community will be listened to, valued, challenged and supported as individuals to recognise and achieve their aspirations, whatever it takes. We aim to follow the guidance of the Hampshire “Collective Worship in County Schools”.

Introduction – What do we mean by “worship”?

Worship has a wide range of meanings and forms of expression. It is a reflection on life, values and experiences, as well as reflecting religiously. Whilst we are proud of the diversity of our school community, at Castle Hill Primary School, collective worship will generally be of a broadly Christian nature (with reference to Jesus, God and the Bible). Where appropriate, pupils will also explore aspects of other religious traditions through a variety of different stimuli e.g. stories, assemblies and discussion, but will not be directly involved in the worship of other faiths.

Aims and Purpose

During collective worship, the children will be able to:

- Explore and share their beliefs
- Consider spiritual and moral issues
- Be actively involved and respond in their own way
- Think about our common ethos and values as a school
- Respond in a variety of ways (e.g. prayer, silence/meditation, reflecting, singing)
- Develop their spiritual, moral, social and cultural understanding
- Consider community values
- Express shared experiences and interests whilst celebrating special occasions together.

Current Practice

Collective worship will be led by the Head Teacher, Deputy Head Teacher and the class teachers.

Day	Collective Worship
Monday	Prayer before lunch. Whole School assembly including prayer or reflection time.
Tuesday	Prayer before lunch. Class collective worship.
Wednesday	Prayer before lunch. Class collective worship. Singing assembly.
Thursday	Prayer before lunch. Class collective worship.
Friday	Prayer before lunch. Celebration assembly including prayer or reflection time.

As a school, we strongly believe in pupil voice. Our children are given an opportunity to write their own prayers about a certain concept, issue or value.

Right to Withdraw

Every effort is made to show sensitivity towards personal faiths and to include all pupils and staff in collective worship. For example, when using a prayer from a particular faith, this is introduced with sensitivity and pupils are not required to say or affirm prayers in which they do not believe. There may be parts of an assembly, for example, when a Christian hymn is sung, in which a pupil does not wish to participate. It is perfectly acceptable to withdraw from part of the assembly by not participating.

A parent has the right to withdraw their child / children (wholly or partly) from collective worship at school.

Monitoring, Evaluation and Review

It is the role of the Governing Body to monitor and review the policy and practice of collective worship in the school. The school will review this policy every year and report annually to the governing body on its implementation and effectiveness. The policy will be promoted and implemented throughout the school by Mrs Finn and Miss Edwards, who will provide support and guidance to staff and parents if needed.