

Clewer Green CE Aided First School

Inspiring Children

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Vision: Every child has been blessed by God with unique potential. Our vision for Clewer Green is to inspire and nurture children in a safe, happy and caring Christian community, where everyone is valued and enjoys learning.

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

Our aim, in line with our distinctively Christian values, is for every child, to have the support that they need, and, by example and direct teaching, promote a Christian ethos within the school, whilst recognising that not all of its members will be practising Christians.

Policy Statement

At Clewer Green CE Aided First School, the daily act of Collective Worship is viewed as an integral and important part of school life. Through this and in the general ethos of the school we seek to promote our Vision Statement:

Every child has been blessed by God with unique potential. Our vision for Clewer Green is to inspire and nurture children in a safe, happy and caring Christian community, where everyone is valued and enjoys learning.

Collective Worship is a time where we come together to share our love of God and celebrate our achievements (and sometimes failures) together. The worship of the school is based on promoting the Christian values which permeate the ethos of the school. As such, the contributions of staff, pupils, clergy and other visitors are valued highly.

Christian Values

Although difficult to define, we identify the values of Love, Faith, Respect, Honesty and Courage as being integral to our school and the embodiment of the distinctive Christian character of Clewer Green CE Aided First School.

Values Education

We blend Christian teaching with the School Values in order to create opportunities for children to develop physically, emotionally, personally, socially, mentally and intelligently so that their self-esteem and well-being is sound and supported by ever growing emotional intelligence. The systematic introduction of a common values vocabulary allows children to access moral and ethical thought.

Legal Requirements

We acknowledge the legal requirement stated in the 1988 Education Reform Act 6 (1) and 9 (3), which states the need for each child to attend a daily act of worship either as a whole school, class or group. Parents have the legal right to withdraw their children from the act of worship either partially or wholly. Any parents wishing to do so should contact the Headteacher. Teachers also have the right to withdraw from leading and taking part in worship.

Organisation

We use the term Assembly as a generic term for our daily coming together for Collective Worship. We aim to provide a variety of worship experiences for the children. Our current schedule is as follows:

Monday:	Values Assembly	Headteacher / Deputy Headteacher
Tuesday:	Church's Calendar Assembly	Rev. Rosie Webb
Wednesday:	Values Assembly	All Staff on rotation
Thursday:	Singing Assembly	Mrs Alevropoulos and Mrs Laver
Friday:	Celebration Assembly	Headteacher

The assembly/worship should last approximately 20 minutes.

Children

Eight children in Year Four are chosen to be 'Worship Leaders'. Their role is to support Reverend Webb leading the Tuesday Assembly and Church services. All children are encouraged to share their thoughts and participate in Wednesday's assemblies, often role playing the story.

Children's academic achievements and behaviour linked to the schools five values are recognised by receiving a certificate in the Celebration assembly and having a value leaf put on the Value tree display board.

Displays

There are three Collective Worship display boards in the main hall: God's story teller (linked to that term's assemblies), five values and the Value tree board.

Planning, Content and Detail

Responsibility for the planning and content of our Collective Worship will rest with the RE Coordinator, the Collective Worship Coordinator and the Headteacher and will be drawn from published schemes supported by The Church of England. Reverend Webb will be directly involved in the planning process for Collective Worship.

Prayer and Reflection

Collective worship always includes a time of prayer and/or reflection, including singing. A range of prayers is used including the Lord's Prayer, our School Prayer, prayers written by the children and others. They are introduced in an appropriate manner with a short time of quiet. At the beginning of the whole school worship a time of reflection and quiet is encouraged by the lighting of a candle. A cross is also displayed on the altar table as is The Bible.

A prayer is said in the morning in the daily Assembly, grace is said by either an adult or child in each class at the start of lunch and a prayer is said at the end of the day.

The school has a Prayer Box which is located near the main reception. Children are encouraged to write short prayers and place them in the box. Sometimes these are related to the Value for the week, on other occasions this could be a personal prayer.

Other Faiths

Although our worship reflects our Christian beliefs and values, we are committed to respecting each other's faith stance and culture, showing tolerance and understanding regardless of pupils' beliefs.

Record Keeping, Evaluation and Monitoring

A file is kept, recording details of each act of worship. Any evaluation will be recorded here and monitored by the RE Coordinator, and RE Link Governor.

Visitors

Visitors to the school are welcomed and enabled to share their experiences and knowledge – their role is to educate, not to evangelise. St Andrew's Church and All Saints Church are our most valuable and frequently used resource, with the whole school attending and contributing towards services at the end of each term.

Parents/Governors/Diocesan Liaison and Local Community Issues

Children may be withdrawn from R.E. lessons at the wish of their parents. The Headteacher will ensure that suitable provision is made for such pupils.

The role of link governor for R.E. has been created on the governing body. The R.E. coordinator and link governor liaise to discuss various aspects of R.E. and this ensures an effective line of communication between the coordinator and the governing body.

Equal Opportunities and Special Needs issues

All pupils, regardless of academic ability, age, gender and ethnic origin will have access to a wide range of appropriate activities to support their understanding of R.E. At each Key Stage, the teacher will draw from other religions as appropriate to acknowledge and celebrate the religious beliefs of the children within the class.

Written: December 2017
To be reviewed: December 2020

_____ Date _____

Neil Laver
Chair of Governors, Clewer Green CE First School