



## **Collective Worship Policy**

### **Godley Community Primary Academy - Collective Worship Guidance**

The Collective Worship Policy at Godley Primary pays due regard to statutory requirements and has taken account of the guidance offered by Tameside LA through its SACRE (Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education).

The policy is consonant with the philosophy and aims of the school and assemblies are conducted in a manner that is sensitive to the individual faiths and beliefs of all members of the school.

### **Definition of Collective Worship**

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

### **Aims of Collective Worship**

Collective Worship contributes significantly to the ethos of Godley School, and it is our aim that it is a time when the school community can: share common aims and values; celebrate achievement and special times; explore together the world in which we live; and develop a community spirit.

### **For the Pupils**

We intend that Collective Worship contributes to the development of the pupil as a 'whole' person by providing opportunities to: worship that which is considered worthy; consider spiritual and moral issues; explore their own beliefs; develop their own spirituality; reinforce positive attitudes; participate and respond and reflect on what it means to be human.

### **The Contribution of Collective Worship to aspects of the Curriculum**

Collective Worship time is distinct from curriculum time. However, at Godley Primary Academy, Collective Worship will at times feature aspects of the curriculum, which will enhance the experiences of pupils by reflecting on the work done in classes. At times, Collective Worship will enrich classwork through its consideration of subject matter from different perspectives.

The provision of opportunities for pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is in line with school policy which informs our practice. To ensure Collective Worship provides opportunities for spiritual, moral, social and cultural development it addresses a wide variety of themes and topics, uses diverse stimuli and resources and provides pupils with the opportunity to 'respond' on their own level.

### **The Management of Collective Worship**

The Worship Co-ordinators, Principal and Vice Principal, plan, monitor and evaluate acts of Collective Worship.

### **The Organisation of Collective Worship**

Collective Worship is organised to provide a variety of groupings and will take place in the school hall, the classroom or via Microsoft Teams.

Acts of worship will usually last for 15-20 minutes, although it is recognised that this time will be shortened or lengthened when it is appropriate.

### **Leadership**

Every member of the school staff and occasional visitors will be involved in leading acts of worship at some point in the school year.

### **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.

Termly planning sheets list themes, special occasions and events, but will be flexible to allow the inclusion of current and topical issues.

Visitors are welcome to lead Collective Worship from time to time and will be given guidance. Leaders from Faiths within the area will increase the pupils' awareness, promote respect and raise the esteem of the pupils who belong to these Faiths.

### **The Act of Collective Worship**

A variety of teaching and learning styles and active and interactive methods are appropriate in acts of Collective Worship. Any and all of the methods employed in the classroom can be used effectively in acts of Collective Worship. A variety of resources will also be used. Leaders will choose the style/method and resources which are appropriate to the content, the age, aptitude and the background of the pupils.

The content and process must be sufficiently stimulating in order to evoke a response in the individual. This may not be visual, but opportunity must be given to express this response through reflection and prayer.

If announcements are to be given at the same time as an act of worship then they will be of a positive nature, which at times may enhance the act of worship itself. Announcements will be made preceding the act of worship and a clearly defined break between them and the act of worship will be made.

### **Withdrawal**

Any parent who objects to their child attending an act or acts of Collective Worship may request that their child is withdrawn. Parents are encouraged to discuss this with the Principal.

Date: September 2023