Hollybrook Infant and Junior Schools

Collective Worship Policy

Dream, Believe, Achieve, Care

At the Hollybrook Schools we aim to ensure that learning is meaningful, stimulating and challenging, reflecting the ever-changing world around us. We endeavour to empower children to be independent, resilient, creative, collaborative, responsible and feel valued as members of the community with a passion for learning. We believe in educating the whole child, nurturing every child's talents to realise their potential and achieve their dreams.

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Reviewed by:	Marcella Dobson
Review Frequency:	Bi-annually
Next Review:	April 2026

Approved by: _____(Headteacher)_ Date:_____

The Collective Worship Policy at The Hollybrook Schools pays due regard to statutory requirements, and has taken account of the guidance offered by the LA through its SACRE.

In line with the 1988 Education Reform Act and the 1996 education Act, which states that collective worship should be 'wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character', and in recognition of the fact that the majority of our pupils are practising members of other faiths - we base our assemblies on those aspects of Christian teaching that are shared with other faiths.

The Collective Worship Policy of The Hollybrook Schools is consistent with the philosophy and aims of the schools as expressed on the school's website. 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 together 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

For the School:
Collective Worship contributes significantly to the ethos of The Hollybrook Schools 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
- develop a community spirit

For the Pupils:
We also intend that Collective Worship contributes to the development of the pupil as a 'whole' person by providing opportunities to:

- reflect on that which is considered worthy
- consider spiritual and moral issues
- explore their own beliefs
- develop their own spirituality
- reflect on the direction of their lives
- reinforce positive attitudes
- reflect on the British values
- participate and respond
- reflect on what it means to be human
- consider the wonders and worries of the world

The Contribution of Collective Worship to aspects of the Curriculum

Collective Worship time is distinct from curriculum time. However, in The Hollybrook Schools, 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 will address a wide variety of themes and topics, use diverse stimuli and resources and provide pupils with the opportunity to 'respond' on their own level.

The Management of Collective Worship

The RE Leader will work with the Teaching and Learning Deputy Headteacher to 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 or the classroom. Collective acts of worship are incorporated into whole school assemblies, class based weekly sessions and RE lessons.

"Collective worship and assembly Collective worship and assembly are distinct activities, although they may take place as part of the same gathering. Collective worship is a special time for pupils to reflect upon life experiences and ultimate questions and, if appropriate, focus on God. It should allow the pupils to be able to make a spiritual response…Schools often gather for achievement assemblies, singing assemblies and curriculum assemblies. These can be made into an act of collective worship through the addition of an opportunity for reflection or prayer at the end of these times. Without it they stay as an assembly."

Monday – Phase collective worship or in class collective worship
Tuesday – Whole school singing collective worship, incorporating a reflection time at the end.
Wednesday - Whole school SLT led collective worship covering a range of themes, incorporating a reflection time at the end.
Thursday – Juniors – SLT led celebration assembly with parents. Infants - Whole school teacher led collective worship covering a range of themes, incorporating a reflection time at the end.
Friday – Infants – SLT led celebration assembly with parents. Juniors - Whole school teacher led collective worship covering a range of themes, incorporating a reflection time at the end.

Leadership

Every member of the teaching 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 assembly rotas including a range of themes, special occasions and events will be followed, but will be flexible to allow the inclusion of current and topical issues.

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.

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

Our assemblies will be conducted in a manner as sensitive and inclusive as to ensure that all children feel comfortable to attend the assembly. The parental right of withdrawing their child from Collective Worship is recognised. Any parents wishing their child to be withdrawn will do this by arranging a meeting with the Headteacher.