



Northgate Primary School

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

Introduction

This policy was written by a working party including staff and governors. It explains the policy for Collective Worship at Northgate Primary School and how we interpret the legislation set out by the government.

The legal requirements for Collective Worship

The 1988 Education Act stated that:

- All pupils must take part in a collective act of worship every day.
- The act of collective worship may be as a whole school or in different age groupings, and may happen at any time of the school day.
- It has to take place on school premises.
- The headteacher is responsible for ensuring the legal requirements for collective worship are met.
- All staff, including the headteacher, have the right to withdraw from the act of collective worship. The headteacher remains responsible for finding someone suitable to organise and lead the acts of worship.
- All parents have the right to withdraw their children from collective worship, wholly or partially. The school's responsibility for the child's health and safety is still paramount.

Aims

At Northgate Primary School we acknowledge that our school community is not a 'worshipping community' in the same sense as a local church. We provide daily acts of Collective Worship which we believe help children to understand some of the features of worship in a Christian community.

These are:

praise	reflection	celebration
thanks	saying sorry	sharing

We have chosen these elements because we believe they are also important features of our everyday life in school.

The law requires us to provide pupils with an opportunity to worship God as part of our Collective Worship. We therefore try to provide an opportunity to respond in the form of a time of quiet reflection at some point during assemblies. This time may involve spoken prayers or a time for each pupil and adult present to be quiet and think about what they have heard. This provides opportunity for each to worship God if they should wish to do so.

Collective Worship will take place in classrooms and as full or part school assemblies.

Approach

Acts of Collective Worship are planned to give pupils a variety of experiences to enable them to reflect on and respond to things that we, as a school community, believe are important.

These experiences include:

- the telling of appropriate stories (Biblical, moral, multi-cultural)
- drama
- poetry
- music
- mime
- puppets

Organisation

There is an act of Collective Worship every day, following the pattern shown below. Assemblies take place on a whole-school basis and in classrooms.

Monday	Singing Assemblies	Key Stage 1 at 10.10, Key Stage 2 at 10.30
Tuesday and Wednesday	Themed Assemblies	10.15
Thursday	Class Assemblies	10.15
Friday	Good work celebration (Headteacher)	Key Stage 1 at 10.10, Key Stage 2 at 10.30

The acts of worship follow themes which support the aims of the school. The current year's themes are displayed in the Assembly Folder in the hall.

While staff are encouraged to follow this scheme, allowances are made for marking festivals or other newsworthy occasions.

Resources

Assembly books are available in the Teachers Resource Area in the library or from the Headteacher. We also use on-line assemblies from the internet.

The Assembly Folder, listing the year's themes and the staff rota, is displayed in the Hall and the Staffroom.

The hall computer has songs and other resources stored in the Teacher Only folder, there are CDs available for backing tracks.

Withdrawal

Parents are advised in the school brochure of their right to withdraw their children from Collective Worship. This withdrawal may be total or partial, and parents are asked to contact the Headteacher to make arrangements. Staff have the similar right to withdraw.

Looked After Children/EAL (English as an Additional Language)/SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disability)

No child who qualifies under one of the above headings will be discriminated against. These extra needs will be taken into account and consideration be given on an individual basis (through IEP, PEP, PSP, BSP).

Northgate Primary School Policy Statement for Collective Worship

Agreed by staff: Summer 2018

Agreed by governors: Summer 2018

Review date As required

J Bailey

Chair of Governors