



# **COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY**

**SPRING 2016**

## **Context**

The Collective Worship Policy at World's End Junior School pays due regard to statutory requirements in line with the 1988 Education Reform Act, which states that all maintained schools have a statutory duty to provide daily collective worship for registered pupils (apart from those who have been withdrawn by their parents) and that collective worship should be 'wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character'. In recognition of the fact that a large proportion of our pupils are practising members of other faiths, or from a non-faith background, assemblies are conducted in a manner that is sensitive to the individual faiths and beliefs of all members of the school.

## **Aims**

Our aims for collective worship are to:

- Provide an opportunity for the children to consider spiritual and moral issues;
- Enable children to explore their own beliefs;
- Encourage participation and response;
- Develop a sense of community spirit;
- Promote a common school ethos with shared values and to reinforce positive attitudes (such as key qualities of tolerance, respect, co-operation, perseverance, honesty, kindness, forgiveness and unselfishness);
- Encourage children to have confidence in their own traditions and beliefs and to value the traditions and beliefs of others;
  - Explore the reasons for and impacts of key historical and current events that reflect upon the dimensions of human life;
- Link with work carried out through curriculum areas, such as PSHE and RE;
- Provide an opportunity for calm reflection.

## **Principles of collective worship at World's End Junior School**

Inclusive:

- Pupil centred
- Affirm diversity
- Respect integrity
- Involve community
- Share values
- Equality

Educational:

- Learning experience
- Properly supported
- Variety
- Celebrate success
- Share disappointment
- Broaden and deepen
- Challenge not indoctrinate

#### Spiritual:

- Open
- Breathing space
- Reflect and refresh
- Big questions
- Atmosphere
- Explore personal belief

### **Role & Responsibilities**

The Headteacher is responsible for arranging the daily collective worship after consulting with the governing body.

### **Practise & Procedures**

Teachers will be provided annually with a timetable of themes for class assemblies (located on the Y:drive/Staff Common /assemblies folder). An Act of Collective Worship will take place every day; the time at which this takes place and its form (whole school or class groupings) may vary from day to day. The Act of Collective Worship may be non-denominational, yet a focus on Christianity will be present in some of our acts of collective worship. All assemblies should include a moment of reflection (usually at the end of it).

Every child will take part in the act of collective worship unless withdrawn by his/her parents/guardians. Whilst fully complying with the law, the school will be sensitive to the fact that not all children will come from religious families.

### **Right of withdrawal**

We expect all children to participate in collective worship. However, any parent can request permission for their child to be excused from taking part in collective worship and the school will make alternative arrangements for the supervision of the child during the period concerned. Parents do not have to explain or give reasons for this. This complies with the 1944 Education Act and was restated in the 1988 Education Reform act. Parents must see the Head teacher if they would like to withdraw their child from collective worship and the head teacher will then keep a record of all of these children.

### **Equal opportunities and Special Needs**

The staff and Governors at World's End Junior School are committed to ensuring that every child in the school will derive a benefit from collective worship (unless withdrawn – see above), whatever their gender, ethnicity, physical or cognitive abilities. Every attempt is made, therefore, to ensure that the materials used are appropriate to a range of abilities, aptitudes and interests and reflect the multicultural society in which we live.

### **Monitoring, Evaluation & Review**

The delivery of collective worship will be monitored by senior leaders and leadership team members. This may include: informal/formal observations and/or discussions with children. The Headteacher will keep a record of all acts of collective worship themes.

The school will review this policy regularly and assess its implementation and effectiveness through Governor Committees and the Leadership Team.

This policy will be reviewed annually by the Governing Body.

Policy Adopted by World's End Junior School

Signed:

Dated: Spring 2016

To be reviewed Spring 2017