



THE DISTRICT

CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Worship Policy

Chair of Governors	Mr F Maguire
Headteacher	Mrs L Shelford
Date adopted: Nov 19	Review Date:

The caring path to achievement, reflecting the values of Christ.

The Collective Worship policy at The District CE Pays due regard to statutory requirements, and has taken account of the guidance offered from Liverpool Diocese.

Mission Statement:

The caring path to achievement, reflecting the values of Christ.

Our Christian values:

Friendship, trust, compassion, love, forgiveness and endurance.

Both the mission Statement and the six chosen values emphasise the distinctive character of our school and are designed to improve the pupils' achievements, their personal development and the contribution they make to society.

Collective Worship at The District CE

Collective Worship occupies an important and unique place in the life of our school as it provides an opportunity for the members of the school community to pause from activity and gather together, to remind themselves of and to reflect upon the beliefs and values, which bind the school community together.

The term 'worship' applies to the activities of a faith community, rather than a school. Therefore, this policy addresses how collective worship can be consistent with the educational aims of a school community.

Collective Worship can play an important role in deepening the spiritual awareness of our pupils and staff. It provides an opportunity to reflect upon the value, purpose and meaning of life and life's events. Pupils and staff share an experience of quietness to counterbalance the busy activity that generally marks the rest of the school day.

Our aim is to facilitate opportunities of celebration and reflection through considering the Christian Values and learning from Jesus' character and achievements, as read in the Bible. Collective Worship is predominantly Christian, with the opportunity to hear stories and words from other religions and literature throughout the year. And so, special times of Collective Worship are planned in the school year to acknowledge the significance of key religious festivals from the main world religions and cultures. In line with legislation that states Collective Worship should be 'wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character', we place particular emphasis on the Christian festivals of Harvest, Christmas, Easter and Pentecost. When looking at other religious festivals, the teaching focuses on the importance of them within each religion emphasising the cultural aspect and the social and moral right to respect.

Personal Development through Collective Worship

Collective Worship contributes to a person's spiritual, moral, social, cultural and intellectual development. It is our aim to explore one or more of these aspects in each act of daily worship, including praise time and celebration assemblies.

Spiritual development involves the growth of pupils' sense of self, their unique potential, understanding of their strengths and weaknesses and their will to achieve. RE enriches and encourages the pupils' discovery of God the creator, of their 'inmost being' and of the wonder of the environment.

Moral development involves pupils acquiring an understanding of the difference between right and wrong and of moral conflict, a concern for others and the will to do what is right. Within a church school, this is based on the teachings of Jesus Christ, which offers pupils a secure foundation on which to make decisions and build their lives.

Social development involves pupils acquiring an understanding of the responsibilities and right of being members of families and communities (local, national and global), and an ability to relate to others and to work with others for the common good. As a church school, social development enriches pupils' understanding of what it means to live in a Christian community where Jesus' command to love one another is put into practice.

Cultural development involves pupils acquiring an understanding of cultural traditions and an ability to appreciate and respond to a variety of aesthetic experiences. Within a church school, this provides opportunities to develop an understanding of Christianity as a worldwide, multi-cultural faith that has an impact on the lives of millions of people.

Intellectual development is promoted by providing an opportunity to learn and engage with their minds, have ideas concerning values that can be confirmed or challenged, reflect the importance of learning in the context of our school community, consider the power that words can have.

Timetable

Monday	Whole school worship lead by the Headteacher or a member of the Leadership team.
Tuesday	Key stage worship lead by class Teacher or Rev Gareth
Wednesday	Whole school praise time.
Thursday	Class worship delivered by the class teacher.
Friday	Whole school celebration

Class citizenship awards are celebrated half termly at a pupil and parent tea party hosted by the Headteacher.

Non - Negotiables for Collective Worship

Collective worship should:

- Be planned, resourced and presented as a lesson would following the half termly guidance:
- Begin and end promptly M.T.W.T(2.50 – 3.10), F (9.05 – 9.25)
- Entry and Exit music (Here I am to worship)
- Have a focal point with a candle, cross and related artefact
- Include Anglican responses, such as ‘The Lord be with you, and with you’
- Include Christian prayers, namely The Lord’s Prayer and The Grace
- Follow a structure which includes personal reflection time and reference to the British Values
- Be treated with reverence, with staff and pupils entering and leaving in a quiet and orderly fashion

Class worship should follow the same principles.

For the delivery of class worship each class will have:

- A worship box
- A cross
- The Lion Children’s Bible
- A candle
- A cloth (optional)
- Length of ribbon (optional)

Preparation and Planning

Collective Worship follows the school’s Christian Values, with the RE/Worship Leader planning an overview for each half term. All teaching staff plan and deliver worship within their key stage. This can include involving children from the worship team where appropriate.

Worship is evaluated class by class on a weekly basis using the worship evaluation book. Staff and children are expected to evaluate each act of worship. There are many planned opportunities for children to continue their learning / reflection back in the classroom.

All resources are stored in the KS2 Hall, staff room and/or the teacher shared drive to support staff with the planning and delivery of worship.

Visitors

Reverend Gareth and members from St. John’s Church lead Key Stage worship on Tuesday afternoon. Along with the personal development lead, he plans and prepares termly Eucharist services for our KS2 children to attend. Year 6 children are invited to take part in confirmation classes that are again led by Reverend Gareth.

Equal Opportunities

All pupils have access to Collective Worship. Where pupils have specific educational needs, arrangements for support from outside agencies and support staff are made to ensure these pupils have an appropriate, differentiated curriculum.

Withdrawal from Collective Worship

Parents and guardians have a legal right to withdraw their child from Collective Worship, providing they give written notification to the head teacher. Teachers can also exercise their right to withdraw from leading or attending acts of worship *but* attending assemblies is part of a teacher’s contractual day.