

Collective Worship - A Policy Statement – - HB – September 2010

The school recognises the value of Collective Worship in the basic curriculum and acknowledges its place in the experiences of children. An act of Collective Worship will be held at the beginning of each day, following weekly themes. These will be planned for a half-term, with enough flexibility built in to accommodate the unexpected. The worship will be of a broadly Christian nature, taking into account the Church of England foundation of the school, but may include stories from other faiths and other appropriate sources. Major Christian festivals will be celebrated at the appropriate time.

The aim of our Collective Worship is to aid the spiritual, social, moral and cultural development of the children and through their intellectual and emotional growth contribute to their personal development, helping to foster right and acceptance attitudes. Collective Worship will also provide children with an opportunity for reflection on their own values and those of society.

Stories, poetry, hymns, songs and prayers will form an integral part of the proceedings and children will be encouraged to participate in the worship by way of responses or more direct involvement.

Each class will be responsible for the organisation and presentation of an act of Collective Worship each term. These acts of worship may be based on work being undertaken in class or another relevant theme. The worship may involve a variety of presentation styles (speaking/ singing/ drama/ dance/ artwork).

The weekly timetable for collective worship consists of 1 headteacher and 2 teacher led assemblies that follows a different theme each week; one Key Stage Assembly and a school celebration assembly that will normally take place on a Friday.

Other 'special assemblies' will be fitted into this timetable. Examples of such assemblies are outlined below:

1. Assemblies led by the vicar of St. Mary's Gainford (usually 2 in a half term). Some of these are held in the school and some in the church
2. Assemblies led by Chris Bambrough (An Anglican / Methodist Youth worker)
3. Visitors, for example representatives from charities
4. Children who are in a school club demonstrating their talents. Parents are invited to these assemblies
5. At least one assembly each term led by a particular class. Parents and carers are invited to these assemblies.
6. One House assembly in the Autumn Term to nominate house captains and one leading up to Sports Day.

It is our intention that all acts of Collective Worship will be meaningful/ thought provoking/ relevant and enjoyable occasions.

Parents have the right to withdraw their child(ren) from the act of Collective Worship. If this is the case the school will provide supervision (but not extra teaching) for the children concerned. However, we would hope that since parents have chosen a Church of England School, they would wish for their child to take part in collective worship and to understand that should they withdraw their child they will still be within the Christian ethos of the school.

The Governors give effect to their responsibilities for Collective Worship by delegating the oversight of this to the Head Teacher.

September 2010

Appendix

Usual Timetable of Collective Worship

Day	Time	Led by	Groupings	Usual Location
Monday	9-9.20am	Headteacher or DHT	School	Hall
Tuesday	9-9.20am	A Class Teacher (see timetables)	School	Hall
Wednesday	9-9.20am	A Class Teacher (See timetables)	School	KS1 – Classroom KS2 - Hall
Thursday	9-9.20am	Key stage teachers to alternate	Key stage	Hall
Friday	9-9.20am	Headteacher or DHT	School	Hall

Please note that other assemblies take place at regular but less frequent times.