

Collective Worship Policy



'Behold how good and how pleasant it is for us to dwell together in unity (Psalm 133:1)

'We are a team that achieve amazing things everyday'

Introduction

This policy outlines the principles and practices of collective worship at our primary school, in accordance with the legal requirements of the Education Act 1996 and the Duty of Collective Worship, as set out by the Church of England. Collective worship is a central aspect of the Christian ethos of our school, and we believe that it plays an essential role in promoting the spiritual, moral, social, and cultural development of our students. The aim of this policy is to provide clarity and guidance to all stakeholders in the way that we provide collective worship at our school.

Aim - Inclusive

The aim of our collective worship policy is to provide an inclusive and meaningful spiritual experience that promotes the Christian ethos of our school and allows pupils of all faiths, ethnicities, and backgrounds to participate actively.

Guiding Principles - Inspirational

Our guiding principles for collective worship at our junior school are based on our Christian values and ethos. These principles are:

- To provide a regular opportunity for collective worship, in which our students can reflect, express their faith, and deepen their spiritual development
- To promote a sense of community, belonging, and mutual respect through collective worship
- To ensure that collective worship is accessible, meaningful, and relevant to all students, regardless of faith or belief
- To reinforce our school's core principles and Christian values in collective worship and provide a regular opportunity to explore and learn from scripture
- To ensure that our provision of collective worship is directed by a leader with a deep understanding of the Christian faith and a respect for our diverse pupil population

- To ensure that collective worship is delivered in a safe and secure environment, adhering to health and safety policies.

Leadership and Management

The Headteacher is responsible for overseeing provision for collective worship and ensuring that it aligns with this policy.

They also oversee the appointment of a member of staff to lead collective worship and support their spiritual development as necessary. The person appointed as the leader for collective worship must have deep understanding of the Christian faith.

Content of Collective Worship

Collective worship is related by the Christian values of our school and reflects the gospel readings of the Christian Bible. Our collective worship features hymns, prayers, and Bible readings. It provides opportunities for pupils to reflect on their lives, with thought-provoking stories, poems or video clips to start this reflection. Speakers from local churches, other faith backgrounds, and charities are also invited to give an address in line with our ethos.

Frequency of Collective Worship

Every student should participate in collective worship on a daily basis, and it should take between 20 and 30 minutes per session. Whole-school collective worship should be held four times each week, while the remaining day can be organised as year group collective worship or class collective worship.

Alternative Provision for Pupils - Invitational

Parents have the right to withdraw their child from collective worship. Pupils have the offer to attend another room for designated time if required.

Monitoring and Review

The school regularly monitors the implementation and effectiveness of the collective worship policy through questioning staff and/or pupils, and supporting them with their reflection.

Conclusion

This policy underpins the promotion of our Christian values and ethos, to provide a meaningful spiritual experience for all pupils. We believe that the provision of collective worship is an essential part of our commitment to provide a welcoming, supportive and nurturing learning environment that strengthens pupils' holistic development at St Faith & St Martin CE Junior School.

This policy has been adopted by the Governors in consultation with the RE subject lead and teaching staff.