



HOLY TRINITY C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL

Benner Lane, West End, Woking, Surrey, GU24 9JQ

Executive Head: Mr J Hills

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

Policy Type:	Non-Statutory
Policy Origin:	Surrey Model
Approved by:	LAB
Last Reviewed:	November 2020
LAB Accepted:	June 2021
Next Review:	June 2023
Summary of changes:	

The school recognises and promotes the 1988 Education Reform Act which requires there to be a daily act of collective worship of a predominantly Christian nature.

Occasions of collective worship will incorporate opportunities for celebration; reflection; reverence and response.

A daily act of collective worship involving all pupils is required. Collective worship takes place in an educational setting as part of the whole school curriculum. For some pupils who are members of a faith community it can be a full expression of worship, for others it will be a learning experience and a window to faith.

Aims

To share in the language and forms of religious stories, doctrines and worship as an educational experience especially the Christian faith as held by the Church of England.

- To provide a forum for reflective response.
- To explore questions of human significance that have a bearing on the children's lives.
- To be presented with a valid set of values that represent the community of the school and wider world.
- To celebrate what is good and worthwhile in the school and wider community.
- To develop a feeling of belonging and sense of identity.

Pattern

Monday – Whole School Collective Worship with the Open the Book Team

Tuesday – Whole School Collective Worship

Wednesday – KS1 Class Worship and KS2 Worship In Song

Thursday – KS2 Class Worship and KS1 Worship In Song

Friday – Whole School Collective Worship

Once a year each class leads whole school worship and parents are invited to attend.

Terms open and close with whole school gatherings as well as participating together in church festivals such as: Harvest, Easter, Christmas and Remembrance. The whole school may also come together for world and national concerns such as natural disasters.

The whole school also comes together for an annual Pause Day where the normal curriculum is suspended and there is a whole school focus on either Easter or Pentecost.

Prayer

Every class has a Holy Trinity Prayer book which children add to over the course of the year.

Every class has a worship area which is changed on a regular basis (half termly) and reflects the focus for the term. It includes objects that aid prayer and reflection.

All classes share a prayer time during the day this maybe before lunch or at the end of the day. Children use their class prayer books or make up their own prayers.

There is a prayer box and a prayer station located in the school where pupils are free to write their prayers.

Leadership

The leading of worship is shared between the Headteacher, Deputy and the RE leader during whole school settings. Other staff are asked to lead from time to time. Class teachers lead worship in their classrooms, material for this is produced by the RE Leader and Deputy.

After or before the act of collective worship there may also be a time of secular Assembly, when the school hears and shares its notices and news, and celebrates its accomplishments and achievements.

Links with the Parish and the local community

The Rector will visit the school to lead worship at least twice a term. In keeping with ecumenical policy of the Church of England there will be occasional visits from representatives of other churches. The partnership with diocese and school is maintained through termly Head/Chair briefings and the annual Headteacher's Retreat.

Two year groups go to the local church each term for their act of worship which is led by the local vicar. The local church and vicar are also used as resources for RE lessons.

Content / themes

Themes are chosen by the head and deputy in liaison with staff and also with pupils through the WHAM team. It is important that the act of worship has a point and a message, that it is relevant to the children and it gives them the opportunity to think and act on the spiritual, moral and ethical nature of what is brought to their attention.

Throughout an academic year the assembly leaders will cover the following aspects of life in a balanced and relevant way. This is co-ordinated by the headteacher according to the worship plan. Plans are kept in a central file in the headteachers office.

- Our school values
- Appreciation of God
- Appreciation of each other.
- The importance of everyone including ourselves.
- School teamwork.
- Individual responsibility.
- Corporate responsibility.
- Our place in the world.
- Caring for the world.
- Thankfulness to God – for each other, for the world, for where we live etc.
- Seasonal/Harvests, Christmas, Easter.
- Stories from the Bible.
- The life of Jesus.
- Friendship.
- The school code.

- Charity support.
- Tales of courage / Great leaders.
- Stories from other religions.
- Unicef – Children’s Rights

Records of all acts of worship will be held in school and will be available to parents on request.

The right to withdraw children from Worship

Whilst it is expected that pupils will be present at acts of worship, the school is, none the less, committed to respecting the integrity of the religious communities from which the pupils come, and it recognises that some parents may wish to exercise their legal right to withdraw their children from acts of worship.

The Foundation Governors will review this policy with the Headteacher and staff representatives every 3 years.