

Collective Worship Policy

Reviewed by	Approved by	Date of Approval	Version Approved	Next Review Date
FGB		Nov 2016		Nov 2018

The policy will be reviewed by staff and governors every two years. Staff are encouraged to feedback information and ideas to the Religious Education coordinator regarding the success of a unit of work and the suitability of resources.

Philosophy

At Westminster Church of England Primary Academy, we strongly believe that worship is an important part of our school's life as it gives us the opportunity to encourage our pupils to think about their place in the world through spiritual, moral and cultural development. We will not shy away from our responsibilities in enabling children to think deeply about themselves and the diverse society in which they live, encouraging respect of those with different viewpoints and values.

As a Church of England Primary School, our Collective Worship will be in accordance with the principles and practises of the Anglican Church, with the continuing aim of safeguarding pupils against extreme influences (Prevent Agenda).

The daily act of Collective Worship has a special status and is distinct from Religious Education.

Aims and Purpose

- To guide pupils to approach worship with a positive, open-minded attitude, characterised by feelings such as humility, wonder, appreciation and thankfulness.
- To support pupils as they explore and respond to different forms of worship, thus enabling them to appreciate and respect the act of worship, whilst deepening their own experiences.
- Recognise commonality and difference within and between religions in order to develop respect, openness and curiosity.
- To enable pupils to consider spiritual and moral issues and the many questions of meaning and purpose which relate to life, whilst at school and in the future
- To celebrate achievements, special occasions and events in relation to individual pupils within school, to the school as a whole, or to the wider community..

Organisation of Collective Worship

Collective Worship will be an integral part of The World Around Us. It will have a whole school theme linking PSHCE, SMSC and The Big Question, providing the opportunity to discuss and highlight relevant issues that may affect the children, and those around them, on a daily basis.

Monday	Whole school assembly lead by SLT	
Tuesday	KS1 celebration assembly (on rota)	Rest of school in class worship
Wednesday	Lower KS2 celebration assembly (on rota)	Rest of school in class worship
Thursday	Upper KS2 celebration assembly (on rota)	Rest of school in class worship
Friday	Whole school reflection in class	

Right of Withdrawal

Our school is based on an inclusive ethos; we expect all children to attend Collective Worship / assemblies. However, we respect the right of any parent or guardian to request permission for their child to be excused. Withdrawal will be made following parental discussion with the Principal, followed by written confirmation. School will then make alternative arrangements for the supervision of those children granted withdrawal from assemblies which complies with the 1944 Education Act, restated in the 1988 Education reform Act. The Principal keeps a record of all those children withdrawn from Collective Worship.

Resources

Resources are located in the cupboard along Asia corridor. They include a range of resource boxes for the key religions, music, books, artefacts and website addresses. There is also a box which contains many resources and ideas for assemblies.

Monitoring and Review

Collective Worship will be assessed using whole school assessment Religious Education trackers. Teachers will use these to consider children's knowledge and understanding of the subject but no formal examinations will take place. Collective Worship developments will be reported to School Governors once a year as part of the curriculum overview.