

Lord Deramore's Primary School Policy for Collective Worship

Rationale:

We believe collective worship to be an activity for the school community to:

- reflect on values that are of a broadly Christian nature and on their own beliefs
- develop a community spirit, a common ethos and shared values
- consider spiritual and moral issues
- respond to the worship offered.

Collective worship is not contained along narrow denominational lines, but attempts to give all members of the school community the opportunity to experience and rejoice in a collective ethos of common values and spiritual and moral insights. Collective worship attempts to complement and expand upon that which is taught in RE, PSHCE and circle time in school.

Aims:

Collective worship aims to fulfil the requirements of the education act. More importantly, it tries to give pupils the opportunity to worship and experience and understand the major aspects of Faith. It is also designed to be inclusive and to respect the integrity of all members of the school community through the development of shared values and experiences.

Objectives:

By the end of Key Stage 2, pupils should have:

- a. experienced daily acts of collective worship
- b. been given the opportunity to reflect on a variety of moral and spiritual issues
- c. have been part of worship activities, which involve the school in the wider community

Statutory Duty of School

This is the requirement of the Education Act:

All maintained schools provide daily collective worship for registered pupils (apart from those who have been withdrawn by their parents/carers). This is usually provided within a daily assembly.

The Headteacher is responsible for arranging daily collective worship after consulting with the governing body. Daily collective worship should refer to the Christian ethos and reflect the values of the Religious Education Agreed Syllabus. The precise nature will depend on the family background, ages and abilities of the pupils. However, if it is inappropriate for some or all of the

pupils to take part in Christian collective worship, the Headteacher may apply to the local Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE) for advice.

Collective worship in foundation schools with a religious character and voluntary schools will be in accordance with the school's trust deed. Where provision is not made by a trust deed, the worship should be in accordance with the beliefs of the religion or denomination specified for the school.

At Lord Deramore's we refer to the beliefs of our community and celebrate our diversity.

Parents have the right to withdraw their children from Acts of Collective Worship. Similarly teachers also have a right to withdraw from collective worship, although in practice, this has not happened.

Planning Collective Worship:

Collective worship is seen as part of the life of the school. It may be related to what is taught in RE as well as other areas of the curriculum.

Collective worship will:

- be acceptable to the whole community, staff and pupils
- include a variety of elements at different times
- involve the pupils.

Collective worship will be used to reinforce the school's aims statement and will take into account aspects of other faiths that are relevant to the cultural diversity of the school.

Collective worship is planned thematically each term but there is considerable flexibility in the use of seasonal and topical material.

We aim to include staff and pupils in leading worship. Parents/carers are also invited to attend collective worship on occasions. Members and leaders of local churches and religious communities also lead and take part in acts of collective worship.

Organisation of Collective Worship:

An atmosphere of quiet is created before the children enter the hall. Music is played as they enter. This is sometimes the personal choice of staff etc or linked to the theme.



Approved by FGB

Meeting Date 14th December 2015